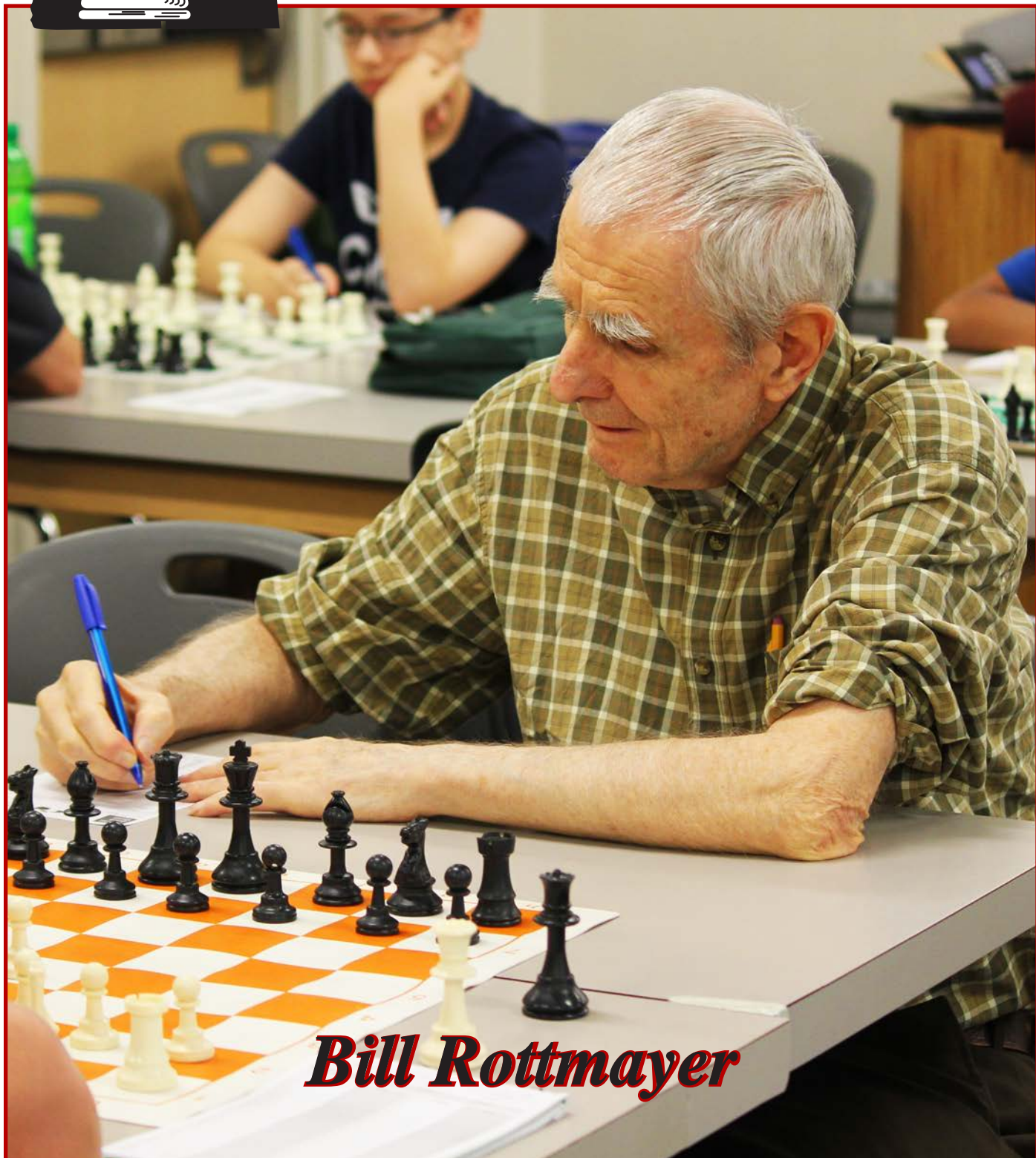


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*Chess News and Features from
Oregon, Idaho, and Washington*



Bill Rottmayer

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On the front cover:

Bill Rottmayer, the oldest participant in the Spokane Falls
Open. Bill has participated in most Spokane Chess Club
events the last few years. Photo credit: James Stripes.

On the back cover:

Dustin Herker at the Las Vegas International Festival where
he won first place U1000. Photo credit: Nancy Keller.

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Chess cartoons drawn by local artist Brian Berger,
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Table of Contents

Bill Rottmayer at Spokane Falls Open	
James Stripes	Front Cover
From The Editor's Desk	
Jeffrey Roland	3
Upset Drama At Spokane Falls Open	
James Stripes	4
August 2018 Unrated Rapids	
Brian Berger	5
Boise Chess Club #20	
Jeffrey Roland	6
2018 Vancouver Open	
Jacob Mayer	8
2018 Vancouver Open Sacrifices	
Phillip Seitzer	9
Seattle Classic	
Jacob Mayer and Josh Sinanan	12
Truelson At The Seattle Classic	
Joseph Truelson	13
More Seattle Classic	
Eric M. Zhang	16
Jason Yu Becomes National Master	
Josh Sinanan	17
Mini-Tournament No. 7, Return Of The Mouse Trophy	
Jeffrey Roland	17
Coquille Summer Of 2018	
Nancy Keller	18
Seattle GM Summer Camps And Flood	
Jacob Mayer and Josh Sinanan	19
James Tarjan Simultaneous Exhibition (Half-Page Ad)	
Vancouver Mall, Vancouver, WA Oct 13.....	20
Washington Game/60 Championship (Half-Page Ad)	
Seattle, WA Oct 13-14	21
36th Reno - Western States Open (Full-Page Ad)	
Reno, NV Oct 19-21.....	22
Washington Challenger's Cup (Half-Page Ad)	
Seattle, WA Oct 27-28	23
August 2018 PCC Game 60	
Brian Berger	24
Washington Class Championships (Full-Page Ad)	
Lynnwood, WA Nov 23-25	26
2018 NW Grand Prix Report	
Murlin Varner	28
Seattle Chess Club Tournaments	30
Upcoming Events	31
Dustin Herker at Las Vegas International Festival	
Nancy Keller	Back Cover

From The Editor's Desk

It is amazing how quickly a month goes by. But here it is, time to do another issue! I usually write this piece last or nearly last, after the rest of the magazine is done. This time however, I find myself wanting to write this almost first, and then the rest of the issue will come together.

I suppose the reason is two-fold. One, because I have taken some vacation time off work, which is nice, so I have lots of quality time to work on this right now, and two, because at the time of writing, the Oregon Open is only half-way finished and is in progress. So our players are out there playing and hopefully will be submitting material soon from that event! I figured to have this done, frees me up to handle whatever material comes my way on the Oregon Open.

Will I be getting material for the Oregon Open for this issue? I hope so, but I will have to see as life unfolds and the question becomes answered. Last year, the Oregon Open coverage was in the November issue.

Most material is submitted to me through email addressed to editor@nwchess.com. I figure most people have to balance living life with playing chess and writing and submitting material (just as I need to balance life with playing chess and being editor.)

Our magazine has won the Best Magazine/Newsletter award now for the fifth year in a row, and we also won the award in 2009 when Ralph Dubisch was editor. This is a huge honor and one I don't take for granted.

I work very hard to make each issue the best I can do. I try to be innovative yet steady, to pack a lot of punch into each issue, and to keep the quality up while still making the print deadlines! It's hard work, challenging, but it's also fun and rewarding too.

So, as I write this piece on September 2, 2018 during the third round of the Oregon Open (which I'm not playing in but which I'm very interested in), I look forward to seeing this issue that you see right now before you, but which at time of writing this is barely begun!

—Jeffrey Roland, Editor.

From The Business Manager

New Northwest Chess Bylaws have been approved by the Board, and should be posted on the website by the time this magazine is received. These new bylaws will serve as the basis for a Federal nonprofit status application.

Upset Drama At Spokane Falls Open

By James Stripes

In the Spokane Falls Open, top seed Brad Bodie took care of business to win his first four games. He was then paired against number two Braxton Casey in round five. It was the last game to finish. They agreed to a draw just as the tournament director walked back into the playing room after distributing the class prizes to all winners still present. That draw left Brad tied with Tito Tinajero (4.5 each) for first and second, sharing the \$250 top two prizes. Both Tito and Brad also earn slots in next summer's Spokane Contenders to determine the next challenger to City Champion, Michael Cambareri. Tito won all of his games, but took a bye in round four. Braxton finished with 4.0 because he also had a bye in an earlier round.

Most players took care of business. There were few upsets through the weekend and only four draws. The event was held August 18-19 at the Jepson Center at Gonzaga University in Spokane. The tournament drew 35 players from as far as Olympia, Washington to the west, Stevensville and Missoula, Montana to the east, and Boise, Idaho to the south. Five participants were unrated, playing in their first US Chess event, although four of these were experienced in scholastic competition. Several others were provisionally rated.



Dave Rowles attempts to unseat Michael Cambareri with the King's Gambit. Photo credit: James Stripes.

Thomas Walthall scored a 692 point upset in the first round only to learn that his opponent was playing in his second US Chess rated event, so the game was not eligible for the upset prize. There were no upsets in the second round. Round three saw two more upsets won by provisionally rated players and Saturday's only draw. As Kevin Korsmo was rated 64 points below his opponent, he became the first who could look

forward to the possibilities of claiming the \$25 upset prize. Round four saw the event's second draw, it was between non-provisional players, and Thomas Walthall was 539 Elo below his opponent! Now, he had a 269.5 point upset with one round to play and revived hopes. It was not to be. There were a couple more upsets in the final round, in addition to two more draws. Finn Belew's win over a player 322 higher rated gave him the upset prize. His sister, Rowan, had a larger upset, but again the victim was provisionally rated.

The \$75 B Class (under 1800) prizes were shared equally by Sam Rainey and Walter Van Heemstede Obelt—\$37.50 each (4.0 scores). David Peoples (3.5) took the \$50 first place for players under 1600. Second place in C Class was shared three ways, with each earning \$8.50 (rounded up from \$8.33)—Louis Blair, Ted Baker, and Sam Sauder (3.0). D Class prizes were shared by Max McGougan and Aniketh Parlapalli who both had 3.0 (\$37.50 each). In under 1200/unrated, Bryce Leifeste (3.0) won \$50 for first and second was split between Finn Belew and Justin Clark (\$12.50 each), who both had even scores (2.5).

All youth players earning prizes were awarded a \$17 bonus, courtesy of a \$100 donation earmarked for the scholastic prize fund.

In the concurrent Spokane City Championship, Michael Cambareri prevailed over Dave Rowles 2.5-1.5. The first game was drawn. Michael won the second game, Dave the third, and Michael prevailed in the fourth. All wins in the championship were from the Black side.



Brad Bodie focuses on the game at hand. Photo credit: James Stripes.

August 2018 Unrated Rapids

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—August 4, 2018

Due to the Rose City Sectionals and the Portland Rapid and Blitz Championship falling on Saturdays during July, a recently introduced new tournament, the Unrated Rapids, was postponed until August. As was mentioned in my last report concerning June's tournament, this six-round Swiss in one section uses a time control of Game 15, which can be extended with judicial use of a five-second increment each move.

As the heading states, this is an unrated tournament, the organizational inspiration of its Chief TD, Lennart Bjorksten, who felt there was a need to have a short tournament where fun can be had by all without the onus of putting your rating on the line. Its modest entrance fee of \$10 for non-members of the Portland Chess Club, and \$5 for those who are, allows you to test your rapid skills against one and all, with the one prize being your choice of a chess book—one book per four players, rounded up.

Although the August attendance was a bit meager (6 players—shortened to 5 rounds) compared to June's, where a dozen attendees tested the calculating speed of their synaptic connections, still, there was excitement aplenty—Gavin Zhang (1981—5.0/5) being the overall winner by proving all of his connections were correctly connected.



Alan Murfitt gets ready to trounce Brian Berger. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Alan Murfitt (1963—3.5/5), originally from the New York area, playing at the Portland Chess Club for the first time, kept all others at bay except Zhang, earning him second place status. While Chris Burris (1726—2.5/5), who took third place honors, somehow fell victim to the Old Man writing this article— Brian “I’m Just Glad To Be Here” Berger (1582—2.0/5)—who is normally very familiar with being said victim.

Ken Harry (1332—1.0/5), who has recently returned to playing at the

club after an extended hiatus, could do no better than beat the Old Man. But to his credit, he came back from a very bad position to do so. And finally, Jon Hoffman (Unrated—1.0/5), who is a familiar figure at the Wednesday night casual chess gatherings—usually hosting one or two Wednesdays a month—but never before entering any tournament activity, managed to give Ken Harry a tussle, wrestling a point from the man who hates to give up points.

If this kind of frenetic activity appeals to you, and you just want to see how your own synaptic connections are working, drop by the Portland Chess Club (the meeting time will be listed on the Portland Chess Club's web site), when on one Saturday each month other of your brethren battle at a rapid pace for bragging rights and a chess book.



(L) John Hoffman vs Ken Harry. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Some of the players. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Boise Chess Club #20

By Jeffrey Roland

The Boise Chess Club (BCC) #20 tournament was played August 26, 2018 at All About Games on Overland Road in Boise, Idaho. Jeffrey Roland was the tournament director. Time control was Game/30 plus 30 seconds added each move. Entry was free. The event was rated by U.S. Chess.

Six players attended this event. This is an all-time record low for the current BCC that was founded in 2014. The all-time high so far is 30 players set at BCC #13, and the average count is 14 players for a BCC tournament. Stephen Buck came all the way from Tacoma, Washington with no incentive of either prize money or Northwest Grand Prix (NWGP) points. He came purely for the chess and the chance to play in Idaho. All the rest of the players reside in Boise. Perhaps in the future we will make our events into NWGP too so as to encourage even more players throughout the Northwest to attend our tournaments.

Jeffrey Roland, 56, (1705-1731—3.0/3), won the event with a perfect score. Raymond Bian, 13, (1327-1460—2.0/3) played some fine chess and got second place on tie-breaks over Stephen Buck, 77, (1775-1764—2.0/3) at third place.

Rounding out the remaining names are Forrest Zeng, 12, (1335-1332—1.5/3) in fourth place, JR Zhao, 9, (658-656—1.0/3) in fifth place, and Michael Presutti, 65, (1805-1740—0.0/3) was sixth place.

There was an interesting demographic of ages (which is why I listed those above). Ages ranged from 9-77 years old, but there was nobody from the ages of 14-55! So the tournament was made up “young” (56-77) and “younger” (9-13), but there was nobody in the middle! This of course may be interesting, but probably means nothing.

I guess I’m just saying, “It is what it is.” And that is true for every tournament. But that is why I encourage everyone to play in every over-the-board tournament they can. Each player brings something special and unique to each tournament. Friendships are made and good times are had. And even if the same exact players came to every event, I would still expect something new and different to happen each and every time! There are so many variables that happen in every game.

To me, that’s the amazing wonder of chess and tournaments. History unfolds as it happens and shows us “what is,” but there’s nothing like experiencing it first-hand and being part of it all.

Raymond Botong Bian (1291) – Michael J. Presutti (1743) [B76]
2018 BCC #20 Boise, ID
(R1), August 26, 2018
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.f3 g6 7.Be3 Bg7 8.Qd2 0-0 9.0-0-0 d5 10.Nxc6

The same position reached in the game is usually seen after 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 and now the slightly unusual 12.Nxd5 (12.Bd4 is more common, with 12...e5 (and 12...Bxd4 both possible.)) 12...cxd5 13.Qxd5

10...bxc6 11.exd5 cxd5 12.Nxd5

12.Bd4!?

12...Nxd5 13.Qxd5 Qc7



Position after 13...Qc7

14.Qxa8!?

White generally plays 14.Qc5 here, when play might continue 14...Qb7 15.Qa3 Bf5 16.Bd3 Rab8 17.b3∞

14...Bf5 15.Qxf8+ Kxf8 16.Bd3?

16.Rd2∞

16...Bxb2+

16...Qe5! and White has problems. 17.Kd2 (17.Be4 Qxb2+ 18.Kd2 Bxe4 19.fxe4 Qxa2∞; 17.Bxf5? Qxe3+ 18.Kb1 Qb6-) 17...Bxd3 18.Kxd3 Qxb2∞ or better.

17.Kxb2 Qe5+ 18.Kb1

18.c3 Qxe3 19.Bxf5 gxf5 20.Rd8+ Kg7 21.Rhd1∞

18...Qxe3 19.Bxf5 gxf5 20.Rhe1 Qf2



Position after 20...Qf2

21.Rg1!?

White’s rooks risk passivity, but this defense perhaps also plants the idea



Raymond Bian. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

in Black’s mind that the pawn needs protection.

21...h5

21...e5∞

22.Rg1

So now that it is no longer guarded...

22...Qxg2??

22...Qb6+ 23.Ka1∞

23.Rg1+ Qxg1

Otherwise Black faced checkmate on d8.

24.Rxg1 e6 25.c4 e5 26.Rg5 Ke7 27.Rxf5 Ke6 28.Rxh5 f5 1-0

Jeffrey T. Roland (1705) – Raymond Botong Bian (1291) [B53]
2018 BCC #20 Boise, ID
(R3), August 26, 2018
[Jeffrey Roland]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4

This move is probably not as good as 4.Nxd4, but it does have the advantage of making the game different, and I think less dynamic. I also used to play this back in 1982–1984 a lot when my friend, Randy Smolensky, who now resides in Myrtle Creek, Oregon (but used to live in Boise) and I, analyzed this quite a bit with each other. It’s perfectly good and playable, but I think it’s just not popular because White doesn’t usually get too much out of the opening.

4...Nc6 5.Bb5 Bd7 6.Bxc6 Bxc6 7.c4 Nf6 8.Nc3 g6 9.b3 Bg7 10.Bb2 0-0 11.Nd5

This should be played now to stop Black’s knight from taking on e4 or d5. Now that would lose to Qxg7 mate!

11...Nh5

Okay, this is the first move that surprised me. Randy Smolensky never analyzed this move with me! But it's not scary as Black probably doesn't really want to just trade bishops. I am, however, finally on this move out of my 36-year-old preparation! It's funny I still remember analysis back that far.

12.Qd2 e6 13.Bxg7 Nxc7 14.Qh6 f6



Position after 14...f6

15.Nf4?

This is just a mistake. I should have played 15.Nc3 and regrouped. I suppose that with all eyes on Black's K-side for so long might have blinded Raymond to the move 15...Qa5+!, I have to say I simply got lucky here and was allowed to play my attack.

15...Bxe4 16.Qxg7+ Kxc7 17.Nxe6+ Kg8 18.Nxd8 Raxd8 19.0-0 Bxf3 20.gxf3



Position after 20.gxf3

This all appealed to me, strangely, as I have been working on K+P endgames lately, and Black's isolated d-pawn versus White's doubled pawn seemed to me somewhat balanced, but I was exhilarated at the prospect of getting into an endgame—even if it was even! I suppose not playing as much chess as I would like to (being TD in so many events I don't usually play and direct too) made me hungry for an even endgame... really!

20...Rfe8 21.Rd2 Kf7 22.Rhd1 Re6 23.Kc2

23.c5 and Black would play 23...Rc8 and eliminate his weakness whereas my doubled-pawn would still remain. Better to just keep the pawn isolated until the right moment.

23...Ke7 24.Rd3 Re2+ 25.R1d2 Rxd2+ 26.Kxd2 f5 27.Rd5 Kd7 28.c5?!



Jeffrey Roland. Photo credit: Stephen Buck.

As I mentioned earlier, I really wanted a K+P endgame because that's what I've been studying lately. Frankly, I felt my opponent was in the zone! He had just beaten Presutti and Buck (the two highest-rated players) in the first two rounds, so I was happy to get into an even endgame with him, if in fact it was even. I'm not so sure now, but that was my mind-set over-the-board at the time.

28...Kc6 29.Rxd6+ Rxd6+ 30.cxd6 Kxd6 31.f4 b5 32.b4 a6?



Position after 32...a6

Black should have kept that tempo in the bank for when it was needed. I was pretty sure I was just winning here. I have a3, f3, and my h-pawn can move one or two squares. So while we can jockey in the

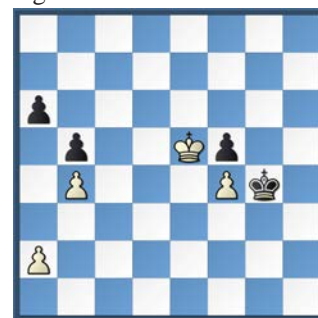
center squares with our kings gaining and losing opposition, you just can't avoid the fact that eventually White will have the opposition with the kings moved one square back (instead of d3 and d5, it would be on d4 and d6) and at that point White should break through decisively.

33.Ke3 Kd5 34.Kd3 h6 35.h4 Ke6 36.Kd4 Kf6?

But even 36...Kd6 and White will win thanks to those two extra pawn moves that are available.

37.Kd5 g5 38.fxg5+ hxg5 39.hxg5+ Kxg5 40.Ke5 Kg4 41.f4

And now Black must give up his f-pawn and the game. 1-0



Position after 41.f4

2018 Vancouver Open

By Jacob Mayer

The 2018 Vancouver Open was held at the Hampton Inn & Suites Vancouver from August 11-12, 2018. In recent years the top seed has failed to win the whole event (last year GM Giorgi Margvelashvili lost a memorable showdown against FM Steven Breckenridge, who would go on to win the event) and this year would be no different.

In the Open Section, Joseph Levine of Seattle, Washington stole the show. After his early round two draw with top-seed FM Steven Breckenridge, Levine went on to upset then-leader Luke Xie in round four. In the last round Levine faced off against NM Josh Sinanan. Josh, needing a win in the last round to have any chance at first place ended up over pressing an equal endgame leading Joseph to a clear first-place finish with 4.5/5 points.

In the Reserve Section Francisco Lopez went into the weekend as the top seed and never failed to look the part. He would have the only perfect score through four rounds, and a draw with Ronald Kirsch sealed a first-place finish with 4.5/5 points. Larsen Winger would finish in a noteworthy tie for second four points, but with two upset wins of over 600 rating points!

This year's event hosted 63 players across two sections and was organized by Josh Sinanan of the Washington Chess Federation. The Tournament Director was Jacob Mayer.

Phillip Seitzer of Portland Oregon noticed a trend on the top three boards during round four of the event and was kind enough to share his findings with all of us. (See '2018 Vancouver Open Sacrifices' on page 9 of this issue.) Thanks Phil!



(L) Joseph Levine, Dan Mathews. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

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2018 Vancouver Open Sacrifices

By Phillip Seitzer

Vancouver, WA—August 11-12, 2018

In round four of this year's Vancouver Open, something unusual happened: in the open section, on boards one, two, and three, the player with the white pieces sacrificed a minor piece. In all three games, the minor piece offering was intentional, not the result of a careless blunder. White was always of expert or master strength, as was their opponent. Curiously, White was never obligated to part with the piece — there were always reasonable alternatives available. What, then, motivated White to offer an entire piece, and why did this happen not just on one, but on all three of the top boards? Perhaps the owners of the white pieces felt a strong pressure to try to win while they had the white pieces. Perhaps they felt that their sacrifice was the appropriate course of action in their situation, or perhaps they simply wanted to win in spectacular and dramatic fashion. In any event, it made for entertaining games to watch.

Before reading further, I invite you, dear reader, to predict how many wins the commanders of the white armies earned for their courageous investments. How many times was White rewarded for their bravery, or how often punished for their bravado? Could it be that in all three games White emerged from the tournament hall triumphant, all smiles and ten feet tall? (3.0/3.0), or rather, is it instead that White always slunk away from the board in a puddle of embarrassment, with the weight of defeat slung 'round their neck (0.0/3.0)? Or was it half triumph and half tragedy (1.5/3.0)?

Let's find out.

**Karl Cosner (1998) –
Steven Breckenridge (2419) [C47]**
Vancouver Open Vancouver, WA
(R4), August 12, 2018
[Phillip Seitzer]

1.Nc3 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.e4 Nf6 4.Nxe5



Position after 4.Nxe5

Karl Cosner is a fierce, uncompromising attacking player. Give him the initiative at your peril. Here he opts for the "Halloween Gambit," an amusing sideline which I am afraid I can't recommend on account of its lack of objective soundness. That said, many years ago, I played the Halloween Gambit in a tournament game, and even managed to win! On the other hand, I've done many foolish things in my life, and not always suffered the consequences for my bad decisions — I offer to you the age-old advice to "do as I say, not as I do," and avoid the Halloween Gambit.

4...Nxe5 5.d4

One option for Black, if they would prefer not to study the theory too heavily, is to simply play 5...Bb4, after which White is obliged to play 6.dxe5, and then after 6...Nxe4, Black has a big advantage without any problems. However, objectively best is retaining the piece and defending carefully, which FM Steven Breckenridge does with stone-cold precision.

5...Ng6 6.e5 Ng8 7.Bc4 d5

Instead of 7.Bc4, White can opt for 7.f4, with the aim for a quick 0-0 and f5 (after moving the Bf1 somewhere). Black's choice appears to be the main move in this position, but 7...c6 and 7...Bb4 look like alternatives.

8.Bxd5 N8e7 9.Be4

I like Bb3 better, intending to meet ...Be6 with d5.

9...c5 10.Be3 cxd4 11.Bxd4 Nc6 12.Bxc6+ bxc6 13.Qf3 Qc7 14.0-0-0 Rb8



Position after 14...Rb8

After this, Black has a comfortable game and should be able to convert their piece advantage, though their king is still in some danger. White fought on valiantly, continuing to create threats until the bitter end, but it was not enough to crack Black's stalwart defenses. Here is the rest:

15.Ne4 Qb7 16.e6 fxe6 17.Rd3 Qf7 18.Qd1 Ba6 19.Rf3 Qd7 20.Rxf8+ Nxf8 21.Nc5 Qc8 22.Bxg7 Rg8 23.Qh5+ Ke7 24.Qg5+ Kf7 25.Qf6+ Ke8 26.Nxa6 Rxb7 27.Nxb8 Rb7 28.Re1 Qxb8 29.Re3 Rf7 30.Qc3 Qb5 31.b3 Rxf2 32.Re5 Qf1+ 33.Kb2 Qxg2 34.Rc5 Qf3 35.Qa5 Qf6+ 36.Ka3 Rf5 37.Rxf5 exf5

38.Qa6 f4 39.Qc8+ Kf7 40.Qb8 f3 0-1

Cumulative Results: white pieces = 0.0, black pieces = 1.0

**Phillip Seitzer (2100) –
Ryan Richardson (2025) [B99]**
Vancouver Open Vancouver, WA
(R2), August 11, 2018
[Phillip Seitzer]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.g4 b5 11.Bxf6 Nxf6 12.g5 Nd7 13.f5 Nc5 14.f6 gxf6 15.gxf6 Bf8



Position after 15...Bf8

So far, my opponent and I have been following a main line of the 6.Bg5 Najdorf Sicilian. We had reached this position before (in the 2018 Rose City Sectionals), and in that game, I played Re1 here. According to Experts vs. the Sicilian, 17.Rg1 is the move, and then Black plays 17...h5 and White should go 18.Re1 now. I had looked at this position with the computer and with the database, and I always wondered, "what happens if after 16.Rg1, Black goes 16...b4?" Shredder does not like the piece sacrifice 18.Nd5 (with the idea to open lines on the Black king), but does give some compensation. However, if White sheepishly plays 18.Ne2 or 18.Nb1, I thought Black has a very playable game. Previously, I was so worried about 16.Rg1 b4 that I played 16.Re1 at once (deviating from the theory), but here I thought I'd give Rg1 a try, thinking it was pretty unlikely that Black would play 16...b4.

16.Rg1 b4

My worst nightmare has come true. Now, I felt I was obligated to sacrifice the piece, or be forced into a passive game. A search against my admittedly low-powered cell phone database reveals that in 11 games, White always sacrificed the piece with Nd5.

17.Nd5 Qa5

This was a huge surprise. In my database, Black always grabs the piece with 17...exd5, and then rushes to play ...Nd7 and ...Ne5. White can then choose to possibly play a quick Nc6, Ne6, Rg7, Qh6, or Qb3. After Black maneuvers their knight to e5,



White has to be extremely energetic, or Black consolidates and the extra piece will soon be felt.

18.Bc4

Pocket stockfish keeps shuffling between 18.Bc4, 18.Kb1, and 18.Rg7, all moves I considered (note that 18.Nc6 fails to 18...Qxa2, where 19.Nc7+ Kd7 20.Nxa8 Bh6+ is fatal). In many cases, I would like to be able to deliver a Bh3+ after Black grabs the knight on d5 and relocates their king to c8 (which they almost certainly will have to, eventually). However, after Bc4, Black can't grab on d5 right away because White can play Bxd5, and Nc6, and recover Black's queenside rook with an ongoing attack.

18...Bb7 19.Rde1

Stockfish finds 19.Rg7 immediately and never deviates from this choice. The point is that if Black grabs the knight on d5, White can grab the pawn on f7, and the advanced pawn on f6 coupled to their active pieces and well-defended king is sufficient for dynamic equality (and perhaps even a small advantage). At first glance, my choice appears to be strictly worse, as I do not capture the pawn on f7. However, after playing a few more moves, stockfish is OK with 19.Rde1.

19...exd5 20.exd5+ Kd8

Here, I went into a long think, considering Re1, Rg1, Qe3, Qh5, Kb1, and Nc6+. All of these moves lead to an exciting

game, but probably, in the end, I would have settled on Kb1. After the game, my opponent and I analyzed this position extensively, and he thought after 21.Kb1, Black could play 21...Kc8. I wasn't sure how to proceed after that, but apparently 22.Nc6 is the key move, which I missed in my analysis:



Position after 20...Kd8

21.Kb1 Kc8 22.Nc6

A) 22...Bxc6 23.dxc6

B) 22...Qc7 23.Re8+ Kd7 24.Rxa8 Bxa8 25.Qg4+! Ke8 26.Re1+ 1-0;

C) 22...Qa4 23.Rg7 and White will capture the f7-pawn, and the attack continues.

Instead, my opponent offered me a draw while I was considering what to do after 20...Kd8, and running a bit short on time, not seeing 22.Nc6, and very worried that White's attack was close to fizzling out to nothing, I accepted the offer.

½-½

Cumulative Results: white pieces = 0.5, black pieces = 1.5

**Luke Bohua Xie (2183) –
Joseph Levine (2103) [C06]**
Vancouver Open Vancouver, WA
(R4), August 12, 2018
[Joseph Levine]
(Phillip Seitzer—PS)

1.e4

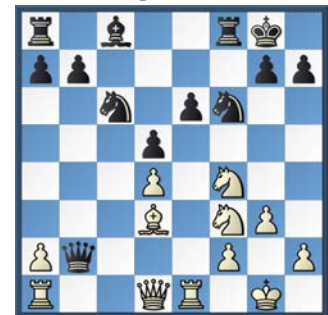
Already, this surprised me as I had played Luke three times before and he had always played 1. d4.

1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 Qb6 8.Nf3 cxd4 9.cxd4 f6 10.exf6 Nxf6 11.0-0 Bb6 12.Bf4 Bxf4 13.Nxf4 0-0

Instead of 13...0-0, I could have taken on b2 and won the pawn immediately. This can lead to complications though after 14. Rb1 and on Qxa2, 15. Ng5 with threats.

[White has the additional option of 12.b3 before Bf4 if they do not want to sacrifice the b2 pawn.—PS.]

14.Re1 Qxb2 15.g3



Position after 15.g3

This is the most common side line, so it didn't surprise me that he played it. The main line would have been 15.Nxe6 Bxe6 16. Rxe6 Rae8 17.Rxe8 Rxe8 18.Rb1 Qxa2 19.Rxb7 and Ne4.

[I think I like Nxe6 better.—PS]

15...g6 16.Re2 Qc3 17.Rc1 Qa3 18.Rb1

This move surprised me a lot as to me it basically wastes a tempo and runs into trouble with a tactic.

[Perhaps White wanted to discourage ...Bd7 (after which Rxb7 is possible).—PS]

18...Nh5!



Position after 18...Nh5

This move exploits the moves g3 and Re2, which left the knight on f3 unprotected.

19.Rb3

This move was kind of forced since if he takes on h5 he gets ...Rxf3 and the forced line is 20.Nf4 Nxd4 and after either Re5 or Re1 to try to keep my rook trapped, I can play ...Qxa2 threatening f2, which would be crushing. If in the beginning he hadn't taken the knight on h5 and instead had just played something like Qd2 to defend f4, I would just go Nxf4 anyway and he would have horrible structure and a worse game.

19...Qe7

My original plan here was to play Qa4 with a pin on the rook, but I realize now that if Qa4 he has 20.Bb5 Qa5 and then he takes on h5 and his rook on b3 is guarding the knight. After I recapture on h5, I would have bad pawn structure and a tough game. After I saw that Qa4 didn't work and Qa5 is just too out of play, so Qd6 became the seemingly best option. The problem was that he had counterplay with 20.Nxh5 Rxf3 21.Bxg6. If hxg6 then 22.Rxf3 gxh5 and he has counterplay due to my exposed king and undeveloped pieces. For example, he could play Qd2 or Qd3, trying to get his queen closer to my king and I don't have a great defense. If instead I had played Rxb3 instead of hxg6 then he would have had 22.Bxh7+ Kxh7 and 23.axb3, again he has counterplay for the piece from my undeveloped pieces and exposed king. Finally, I looked at Qe7 in more depth and realized that the seemingly good Nxd5, winning a pawn didn't work due to Qg7. After Qg7 his knight on d5 is hanging, and so is his knight on f3. To save both, he has to play Nf4, but then I play Nxf4 and after gxf4 I can take the doubled f-pawn or get his d-pawn and I will be better either way.

20.Nxh5 Rxf3 21.Bxg6



Position after 21.Bxg6

This was his most dangerous move and he had to play it to have any chances.

21...Rxb3

If instead ...hxg6 then he would play 22.Rxf3 gxh5 and he has counterplay with moves like Rf5.

22.Bxh7+

This move is just desperado as he will lose the piece anyway. The point is that I can't take with my queen because of 23.Nf6+ winning my queen.

22...Kxh7 23.axb3 Qg5

Qg5 is very important in my opinion as now I am able to block checks on the b1-h7 diagonal and also I am forcing him to protect the knight.

[White has sacrificed a piece, perhaps thinking that Black's Ra8 and Bc8 were sufficiently inactive to justify his attack. However, it only takes two moves for Black to play ...Bd7 and ...Rg8 / ...Rh8 / ...Rf8, and anyway, White's pieces are also quite uncoordinated. Additionally, I can't find any concrete ideas for White. As Joseph points out, the Qg5 is an excellent defender.—PS]

24.Re3 Qg6 25.Kf1

I think this move was just trying to confuse or unsettle me as it has no purpose that I know of.

[I thought White had to try Nf4 or g4. Perhaps White wants to play g4 without worrying about ...e5 and ...Bxg4?—PS]

25...Bd7 26.g4 Rf8 27.h3 Kh8 28.Kg2 a5

Here my simple plan to win was to just push my a- and b- pawns to create a passer and use that as some kind of diversion to make threats or win pawns on the kingside.

29.f4 b5 30.Qe2

I don't know if he just missed that after ...Nxd4 and Qb2, I have ...Qc2+ trading queens and winning.

30...Nxd4 31.f5

This move is just to try to make chaos or confusion but I am still winning.

31...Nxf5 32.Rc3 Ng7 33.Qe5 Qe4+ 34.Qxe4 dxe4 35.Ng3 Rc8 36.Re3 Bc6 37.h4

I was hoping that instead of 37.h4, he would play 37.Nxe4. That would lose easily to ...Nf5. If he plays 38.gxf5, then I have ...exf5 and I will win his knight in return as it is pinned. If instead he plays 38.Re2 or Re1, saving the rook whilst still protecting the knight, then he gets ...Nd6 and I will win his knight as it is pinned.

37...a4 38.bxa4 bxa4 39.h5 Kh7 40.Kh3 Rb8 41.Nxe4 Rb3 42.Rxb3 axb3 43.Nc3 b2 44.Kg3 e5

[Black could also play 44...Be4, and 45.Nxe4 fails to b1Q, while if White does not play 45.Nxe4, Black can still play b1Q and ...Bxb1 after Nxb1. Probably, Black was worried that after losing their b2 pawn, they only have an e6 pawn left, and have to be careful not to allow White to capture Black's final pawn.—PS]

45.g5 Nxh5+ 46.Kg4 Kg6



Position after 46...Kg6

White resigned.

0-1

Cumulative Results: white pieces = 0.5, black pieces = 2.5

In summary, it appears that despite their best efforts, White's strategy of offering a piece was largely unsuccessful. If there is any lesson to draw from these games, perhaps it is this: take the money and run. Though White was able to generate at least some interesting attacking chances in each game, Black gobbled up White's offering with an 83% success rate. By capturing the piece, Black placed the burden of proof on his opponent, and even when White could have continued with the advantage (as on board two), the extreme pressure was too much for them and they failed to find the best continuation over the board.

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Seattle Classic

By Jacob Mayer and Josh Sinanan

The second annual Seattle Classic was held at the Seattle Chess Club from August 15-19, 2018 and was full of excitement! Players from Canada, Washington, Oregon, and even Japan participated in the event organized by Josh Sinanan and directed by Fred Kleist and Jacob Mayer.

In the Open Section, a first-round draw between GM James Tarjan of Portland and NM-elect Jason Yu shocked the field and opened the door for anyone to take the lead. First, Life Master Viktor Pupols surprised the field by beating FM Steven Breckenridge of Portland, drawing with FM Anthony He of Sammamish, and held sole possession of the lead after four of nine rounds with 3.5/4 points.

Pupols would then go on to draw with GM Tarjan in the following round before faltering in round six and finishing in a tie for sixth. Following round five, FM He would contest GM Tarjan for a share of the lead, but was defeated and would finish in a tie for fourth place with the young up-and-comer Joseph Levine.

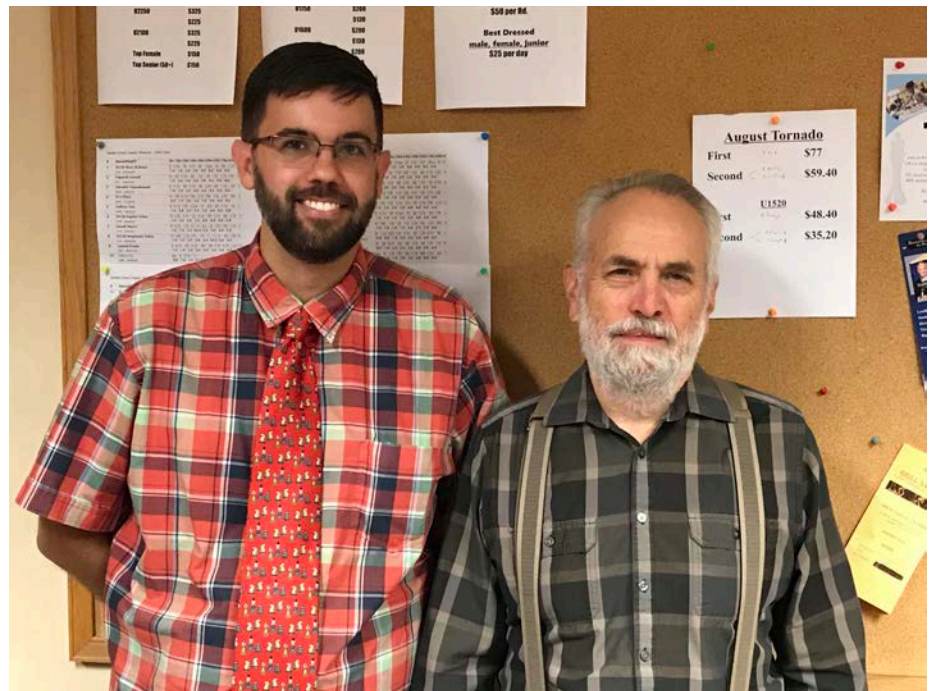
After Anthony faltered, expert Joseph Truelson of Issaquah took the reins as GM Tarjan's biggest threat. Truelson upset then first place LM Pupols in round seven and FM He in round eight to have the right to challenge GM Tarjan for the tournament lead in the last round!

However, his magical run came to an end as he lost his last round and would finish in a tie for second place with FM Steven Breckenridge of Portland. By the end, GM James Tarjan entered this year's Seattle Chess Classic as the favorite and would win outright by a whole point with 7.0/9.

The Reserve Section was full of leader changes as well. Following round seven, WCM Mary Kuhner led the event with six points and had dispatched of five of the top six finishers with only the dangerous Jeffrey Yan remaining. Mary took the initiative with an exchange sacrifice but would go on to lose the game and finish in a second place tie with Jeffrey.

Going into the last round, Vignesh Anand and Jeffrey Yan sat tied for first place, with Mary Kuhner and Advait Vijayakumar only half a point back. While Jeffrey and Advait drew their last-round game (Advait would go on to finish fourth with WCM Sophie Velea), Mary Kuhner would win her last round game, leaving Vignesh with a chance to win it all.

Just like GM Tarjan in the Open



Josh Sinanan (L), GM James Tarjan. Photo Credit: Jacob Mayer.

section, a last round win by the highest-rated player (Vignesh Anand) would clinch outright first place and seal his comeback. Vignesh played against California's H.G. Pitre in the last round and would go on to win the game and the section, finishing with seven points.

**Jim Tarjan (2475) –
Kenji Hiebert (2165) [A14]**
Seattle Classic (R2), August 16, 2018
[Jim Tarjan]

**1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 e6 3.Bg2 d5 4.Nf3 Be7
5.0-0 0-0 6.b3 b6 7.Bb2 c5**

Black's move order is a bit unusual, and White has a choice of how to proceed. 8.e3, 8.Nc3, and 8.d4 all have their points.

8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.d4 Bb7 10.Qd2N

For better or worse, I made this up at the board, trying to mix things up. Believe it or not, not a single prior game in the database.

10...Nc6 11.Rd1

11.dxc5!? Bxc5 12.a3

11...Rc8?!

11...cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4= renders my plan harmless.

12.e4!

Suddenly we have crazy complications. I was skeptical at the board but surprisingly Mr. Computer does not refute my concept.

12...Nf6

12...Ndb4 13.a3 Na5 is one of the complicated lines to consider.

13.d5!



Position after 13.d5

This was my main line of analysis when I played 12.e4, and what I was hoping for. 13...Nb4 14.a3 (Houdini comes up with 14.Bxf6! Bxf6 15.e5 exd5 16.a3! Na6 17.exf6 Qxf6 18.Ra2+/-) 14...Nxe4 15.Qe2 Nxf2 16.Qxf2 Nxd5 is a line I saw at the board. Its a game: Houdini slightly prefers White.

13...Nxe4 14.dxc6 Nxd2 15.cxb7 Rc7?

15...Nxf3+ 16.Bxf3 Qc7 17.bxc8Q Rxc8 (or 17...Qxc8) 18.Na3 is what I calculated. I figured I could not be worse with my active pieces.

16.Rxd2 Qb8

He reached out to play 16...Rd7 but then realized I have 17.b8Q.

17.Ne5 Rxb7

He ought to try 17...Bf6 but after 18.Na3 White should be winning.

18.Bxb7 Qxb7 19.Rd7 Qe4 20.Rxe7 f6 21.Nd2 Qc2 22.Nec4 b5 23.Rc1 Qd3 24.Rxe6 bxc4 25.Nxc4 f5? 26.Re7 1-0

Truelson At The Seattle Classic

By Joseph Truelson

Everyone should see this, as this is a model game annotation: (I hope)

The “brilliances” that got me 2nd in the Seattle Chess Classic!

I don’t have any photos of me since I was a baby, but even if I did, they would not look nice in the article. For the reader’s sake (and my own), only my games will be featured, luckily not me.

On that note, a small intro to my games:

(If any of this is too corny, stupid, or irrelevant and you need space for other people’s games or other events, feel free to cut out half, or all, of my commentary.)

Since someone like Josh Cinnamon has already covered the basics, I will make sure to make this mostly about me, which should be easy since I’m one of the most self-centered people I know. This was easily the best tournament in my life performance-wise. Tense games that kept me focused for hours on end happened every round. And the likelihood of losing, the dangers of drawing, and the wonder of winning keeps me coming back to tournaments, as well as to meet up with “friends”.

Going into the event, I was hoping to get 2100 back after having dropped a lot in my previous event. And while the first game (2nd round for me since I took a half point bye) didn’t yield much for me, the second one presented a nice opportunity; I saw a forced win!

**Joseph Truelson (2088) –
Brendan Zhang (2164) [E19]**
Seattle Chess Classic
(R3), August 16, 2018
[Joseph Truelson]

1.Nf3

Brendan has done well against me in previous encounters in which I played 1.e4 or 1.d4, and while we usually drew, he clearly knows the openings better. So I hoped to transpose into something strange.

1...Nf6 2.c4 b6 3.g3 Bb7 4.Bg2

This is the first Queen’s Indian I’ve had in my life from the White side. Luckily, since I’m White I don’t have to play amazing to keep the balance.

4...e6 5.0-0 Be7 6.d4 0-0 7.Nc3 Ne4

This is the main line of the Queen’s Indian. I already didn’t know what the move was for White.



Seattle Classic Open Section: (L-R) Joseph Truelson, Anthony He, Ignacio Perez, Jason Yu, Isaac Vega, Eric Zhang, James Tarjan, Joseph Levine, Steven Breckenridge, Anne-Marie Velea. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

8.Qd3 Nxc3 9.Qxc3 f5

There has been a couple thousands games played here somehow. Since I was out of theory, I felt like I had already messed up, as Bf6 followed by c5, d6, and Nd7 seemed highly annoying. So I decided to develop the bishop to b2.

10.b3

Somehow, I again find the main line without knowing what it is.

10...Bf6 11.Bb2 c5 12.Qd2 cxd4 13.Bxd4

At this point I was actually start to feel pretty good about my position. I was planning on doubling on the d-file and perhaps win the d-pawn if I was lucky.

13...Qc7?

Possibly a losing move. Black will have to move that queen again soon after I do Rc1, and with d5 being risky, might just end up losing the d-pawn.

14.Rfd1 d5?! 15.Bxf6 Rxf6 16.Rac1!

Here I think I win a pawn at least. There are simply too many ideas, Ng5 and even some back rank ideas if plays Bxd5 are in the position. This is definitely lost.

16...e5?!

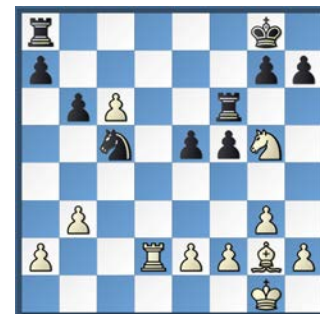
Objectively worse, but understandable. Brendan doesn’t want to be down a pawn in a clearly losing ending, so he tries to confuse me. 16...Qd6 17.cxd5 exd5 18.Ng5 This was my plan, simply getting an extra pawn and still retaining a better position.

17.cxd5 Qd6 18.Ng5 Nd7?

Since move 16 I had figured that if he played this I had Rc6! And after a lot of calculation I realized that it worked too!

19.Rc6! Bxc6 20.dxc6 Qxd2 21.Rxd2 Nc5

21...Nf8?? 22.Bd5+ Kh8 23.c7 Rc8 24.Rc2!



Position after 21...Nc5

22.c7??

This is really the critical moment of the game I guess. I should explain this awful blunder. In calculation Rc6, I had seen that I needed to play Bd5+ first and then c7. But for some reason, when this position came on the board, I forgot my analysis and just played c7, forgetting the obvious: 22.Bd5+ Indeed, this is just simply winning. 22...Kh8 (22...Kf8 23.Nxh7+) 23.c7 Rc8 24.Nf7+ Rxf7 (24...Kg8 25.Nd6+) 25.Bxf7 Nb7 26.Rd7!! Followed by Be6 or Bd5, with an easy win.

22...e4!

“Oops”, I whispered. I initially laughed at my stupidity, and then got angry at myself, figured I was losing. But as it turns out, there is a way out, which after a good think I found. Turns out the line is 0.00, but at least I found one of them.

23.b4 Na6 24.Rd8+! Rf8 25.Ne6 Re8

25...Nxc7 26.Rxa8 Rxa8 27.Nxc7 This is essentially the same.

26.Rxe8+ Rxe8 27.b5 Nxc7 28.Nxc7 Re5 29.a4 Rc5 30.Ne6 Rc4 31.e3 Rxa4 32.Bf1

I saw this all when playing 23.b4, and figured I had winning chances, though a draw was likely.

32...Kf7 33.Nd4 g6 34.Kg2 Ke7 35.Be2 Ra3 36.g4 Kf6 37.gxf5 gxf5 38.Kg3 Ke5

Here I realized that I might be the one in trouble.

39.Nc6+ Kd6

The initial plan was to play 40.Kf4, but this would get me in a lot of pressure after 40...a5! I decided to make the prudent decision and draw, and in analysis expressed my frustration at seeing a win and then forgetting it.

1/2-1/2

After the tournament, Brendan, who had a miserable event, would admit that this was the highlight of his event. Apparently making me miserable lights up his day.

Anyways, I played the prodigy Jason Yu in the next game, and offered a draw in a better endgame (proved by the engine, I didn't see it at the time). Propelled from this good result, Yu ended up becoming a master after this event. Congratulations! Let's hope I can join Yu soon. (Yes, I'm talking to Yu!)

But I shouldn't make this all about me even though I said I would. After four rounds, Viktors Pupols, with 3.5/4, was in clear first! He had beaten Breckenridge, which stunned us all and left everyone in the event wondering what the secret of his amazing play was. Tied for second were the expected: GM James Tarjan and FM Anthony He.

In Round 5, Pupols drew Tarjan, while I finally got a win against yet another prodigy, Rushaan Mahajan. I guess I'll show that game, it was as good of a win as any:

Rushaan Mahajan (2087) – Joseph Truelson (2088) [D02]
Seattle Chess Classic (R5), August 17, 2018
[Joseph Truelson]

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4

Rushaan always plays the London. I've tried a KID setup, and this time I decided to do the standard line.

2...c5 3.e3 Nc6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.c3 Qb6

This is known as the "refutation" of the London, although it really isn't.

6.Qc2?!

6.Qb3 c4 7.Qc2 Bf5 8.Qc1 This is played the most, although it is clearly better for Black.

6...Bg4 7.Nbd2 e6 8.Bd3 c4 9.Be2 Bf5 10.Qc1



Seattle Classic Reserve Section. (L-R) Back: Rowan Foxley, Alex Kaelin, Lorenzo Patton, H.G. Pitre, Doug Henderson, Brian Sullivan, Ani Barua, Mary Kuhner, Jeffrey Yan. Front: Lois Ruff, Sacchit Boddapati, Anand Gupta, Vignesh Anand, Derin Goktepe, Nilay Bhoot. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

Black frequently has trouble making progress in this positions, so I decided to get the bishop pair and hope that it would do something.

10...Nh5 11.Bg3 Nxc3 12.hxc3 h6

Played in anticipation of the annoying 13.e4.

13.e4 Bh7 14.e5!?

I was more annoyed by 14.exd5 followed by targeting the d-pawn.

14...Be7 15.0-0

Here I was actually not too happy with my position. I felt like castling either side would get me under a huge attack. So I decided to attack!

15...g5!?

A crazy move! I'm hoping that if I can push a few pawns and then castle queenside, I'll be ahead in the attack. And even kingside castling is still a consideration. It all depends on what he does.

16.Nh2 Bg6

This prevents Ng4 from hitting the h-pawn, as well as freeing the h-pawn to advance. At this point, I wanted to launch a huge attack. I was tired of all the draws I'd been getting and for the first time in the event I was actually down on time, by almost half an hour.

17.Bd1 f5?

I was scared of Bc2, it looked like it could ruin all my plans. But objectively I should've pushed my h-pawn. 17...h5! 18.Bc2 Bxc2 19.Qxc2 g4!?

18.Bc2?

But he blunders in turn. Taking on f6 was dangerous for me, though I felt like

I could hold on. 18.exf6 Bxf6 19.Bc2 Bf7 20.Ng4 Bg7 This was my idea, and I figured while it was a little risky I was ok.

18...h5!

If that doesn't scare you, then nothing will!

19.g4??

This was his initial plan, trying to breakthrough. But he just opens the h-file for me! The whole game, it would have been better for him to go b3 and try to open lines in the queenside. I want him to open the kingside!

19...hxc4 20.Nxc4 0-0-0!

At this point he was starting to sense the danger I think.

21.Ne3 Rh6

Nothing special. But effective.



Position after 21...Rh6

22.f3??

I immediately see ...Nxe5 and ...Nxd4 being possible. Rushaan smiled at me and said "take it!," which confused me and made me think a little longer. Was I missing something? I didn't think so though. He's just bluffing, I figured.

22...Nxd4!!

The strongest continuation, but I had to see the game continuation.

23.cxd4 Qxd4 24.Re1 f4 25.Bxg6 fxe3 26.Nb3

This move had concerned me when calculation 22.f3. While I knew I must still be winning, it is a little annoying since I wanted to win now. But then I saw a forced checkmate:

26...Rh1+! 27.Kxh1 Qh4+

And unlike most prodigies, my opponent resigned, not needing to be checkmated.

0-1

I managed to win a strange game in round six, leaving me with 4.0/6. The bad news was, I wouldn't be playing down for the rest of the event. Tarjan beat Anthony in round six, to put him at 4.5, tied with Viktors. And in round seven, I was paired against Viktors. My chances didn't look too great, and I wasn't too optimistic. But to my great surprise, after some bad moves in time pressure by him, I ended up beating him!

Immediately after winning this game, I knew that no matter what, my pairings for the following day would be playing Anthony in round eight and GM Tarjan in the last round. The good news was that even if I lost my last two, it would have still been a great event. The bad news, I was playing some of the best players I've ever faced! And being certain to lose, the next game came as quite a surprise:

Joseph Truelson (2088) – Anthony He (2350) [B22]
Seattle Chess Classic (R8), August 19, 2018
[Joseph Truelson]

1.e4 c5 2.c3

The Sicilian has been annoying me forever. I've tried the Open, Closed, Bb5 lines, b3 lines, and none of them seem to work! I hoped that the Alapin would succeed in getting a decent position without too much theory.

2...Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.Bc4

**Play over-the-board
Tournament
Chess!**



(L) Anthony Hung vs Brendan Zhang during round 1 of the Seattle Classic.
Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

This is really an attempt to get my opponent out of theory more than anything else really. 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.cxd4 This is the main line.

4...Nb6 5.Bb3 Nc6 6.Nf3 d5 7.exd6 c4 8.Bc2 e5!

And I was out of preparation. Before the event I spent like 10 hours preparing my openings, but none of the lines I wanted to face ended up being played! No! At the time though, I didn't know this was a move, so I tried to refute it.

9.d7+ Bxd7 10.0-0 Be7

Here, I realized I was not actually doing well. If he plays f5 and e4, I have no chance! So I decided to try and break things up.

11.d4 cxd3 12.Qxd3 f5!

Now I am really feeling the pressure.

13.Qe2 e4 14.Nd4 Nxd4 15.cxd4 Be6 16.Rd1 Bc4 17.Qe1?!

17.Qh5+ g6 18.Qh6 Apparently this is better, but I was feeling pessimistic during the game and did not see this.

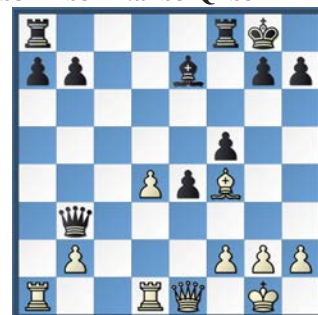
17...0-0 18.Nc3 Nd5 19.Nxd5 Bxd5 20.Bf4

Here I was starting to feel like I had hope. If I can put my bishop on e5 and trade off everything, I should be able to draw.

20...Qb6

Or not. Clearly I can't go b3 and just lose to the rolling pawns, so I have to sack a pawn.

21.Bb3 Bxb3 22.axb3 Qxb3



Position after 22...Qxb3

At first I figured this was game over. I lost a pawn, for no apparent compensation. But then I realized my d-pawn is actually dangerous!

23.d5 Bc5 24.Rac1

And it turns out life is not that easy for him here. Anthony has to play accurately to be up a clear pawn, and immediately he played:

24...Qb6?

This might not lose the game, but it sure makes it bad. I have no choice but to push the pawn.

25.d6 Rad8 26.d7 Rf7

Seeing the troubles, He spent 15 minutes on this move, but it might already be too late.

27.Rd5! Bb4?

The engine thought Bd4 was the only move. 27...Bd4! 28.Bc7 Bxf2+ 29.Qxf2 Qxf2+ 30.Kxf2 Rxd7 with play for the

piece. I would struggle to win for sure.

28.Qd1 Qe6?

Threatening to take the pawn, so I defend it.

29.Rc8 Be7?

It's already lost. With just 20 minutes and a million threats though, it's understandable why it is so hard to put up resistance. 29... Rxc8? 30.dxc8Q+ Qxc8 31.Rd8+

30.Re5 Qc6? 31.Rxc6 bxc6 32.Ra5

32.Bg5 won faster and I considered it, but decided to take no risk.

32...Bf6 33.Rxa7 g5 34.Be3 Rb8 35.Bd4 Bd8 36.Qc1 Rb3 37.Ra8 1-0

I was pretty much speechless after the game. I really didn't view it as a great game, not that I ever have them, but I totally expected to lose. Amazingly enough, I was tied with Tarjan for first, with 6/8!

I will admit though, despite this victory, I was still as certain I would lose to James Tarjan. Still in the celebratory mode and knowing I would lose, I resigned early, in a position that I arguably wasn't even losing yet. Oh well, I'm not that good yet.

Still, gaining 60 rating points and getting in range of master (2088-2147) was beyond my wildest expectations. The loss hardly discouraged me; I enjoyed arguing with the other players as EVERYONE in the tournament criticized me for resigning early ("You wasted your chance to play a GM," "He could blunder," "You were playing so well," etc.) Because I am known as the "loud one" at these events, everyone that came into the skittles room asked me over and over again, why?!

I tied for 2nd with Breckenridge, winning a good amount of money and hopefully gaining the respect of my peers. Next time, they better stop saying how bad I am!

More Seattle Classic

Eric M. Zhang (2100) –

Brendan Zhang (2127) [E17]

Seattle Classic (R6), August 18, 2018

[Eric M. Zhang]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.d5

I saw a game where alpha zero played this line, so I decided to try it.

7...exd5 8.Nh4 Ne4

8...c6 This is what Stockfish played 9.cxd5 Nxd5 10.Nf5

9.cxd5 Bxh4 10.Bxe4 Bf6 11.Nc3 Re8

12.Qc2 g6 13.Bg2 Bg7 14.Bf4

14.Nb5! Na6 15.Bf4 d6 16.Rac1±

14...d6 15.Rac1 Qd7 16.a4?

I wanted to preserve the idea of Nb5, but unfortunately I missed Black's next move.

16...a5!

Securing both c5 and b4 for the black knight.

17.Ne4

17.Nb5 Sadly this move doesn't win a pawn, due to black's defensive resource. 17...Na6! 18.Nxc7?? Rec8+

17...Na6 18.Bh6 Bh8



Position after 18...Bh8

Here I realized that I have to go for an attack, because the queenside is blocked and his knight is a monster of there. 18... Bxh6?? 19.Nf6+ Kg7 20.Nxd7

19.f4??

An honestly horrible move, although it does put some pressure on him.

19...Qf5?

He doesn't find the right move under pressure. 19...Bxd5! 20.Nf6+ Bxf6 21.Bxd5 Nb4+

20.Ng5 Bd4+

20...Re3! 21.Be4 Rxe4!! 22.Qxe4 Bxd5+

21.Kh1 Qxc2 22.Rxc2 Re7 23.f5

The attack starts. It shouldn't work, as all he needs to do is trade off my knight or the dark-squared bishop.

23...Nc5 24.f6 Ree8 25.Rc4

Although not technically the best, it does bring the rook in, for the idea of Rh4 and possibly something.

25...Bxb2

25...Be3 Just try to trade the pieces, so I have no attack! 26.Rh4 Bxg5 27.Bxg5 Rxe2+

26.Rh4

My threat is Nxb7

26...Re5

A good idea, trying to have Rh5 in some lines. 26...Bc8 27.Nxb7! Kxh7 28.Bg7+ Kg8 29.Rh8#

27.g4

Trying to prevent Rh5 27.Nxb7! Rh5!μ (27...Kxh7?? 28.g4! Rh5 29.gxh5 Kxh6 30.hxg6+ Kxg6 31.Rg4+ Kh5 32.Bf3 Bc8 33.Rf4+ Kg5 34.e3 Bf5 35.h4+ Kxf6 36.Bd1 Ke7 37.Rxf5±)

27...Bxd5 28.Bxd5 Rxd5 29.Nxb7 Ne6 30.Rf3 Bc1 31.e3 b5 32.Rfh3

All of my pieces are on the h-file! I really need that mate!

32...Bb2

I must spend another move, because I can't get my pieces out of the way yet without Rh5, Bxf6 or the knight blocking.

33.g5

Threatening Nf8



Position after 33.g5

33...Rf5?

33...Rd1+! 34.Kg2 Rd2+ 35.Kf3 Be5!! Surprisingly the only move that doesn't lose (35...bxa4?? 36.Nf8 Rxf8 37.Bg7 Nxc5+ 38.Kf4!!+-) 36.Bg7!! (36.Nf8 Rxf8 37.Bg7 Nxc5+ 38.Kg4 Rg2+ 39.Rg3 Rxc3+ 40.hxc3 Nh7-+) 36...Rxb2 37.Rxb2 Bxb2 38.Rxb2∞

34.Nf8 Bxf6??

The final mistake. 34...Rf1+! 35.Kg2 Rf5 36.Kh1= (36.Bg7?? Rxc5+ 37.Kf3 Rh5-+)

35.gxf6+- Nxf8 36.Bxf8

36.Bg5 In my rush I missed this simple move. Mate follows soon.

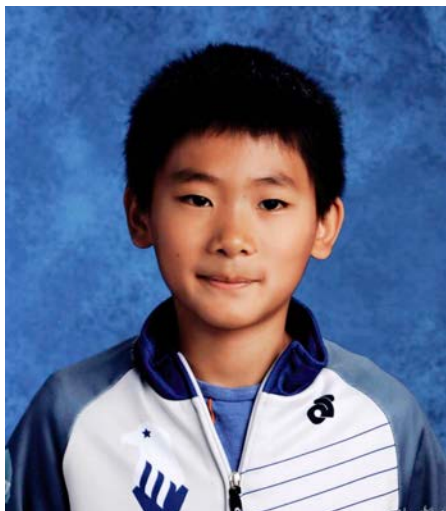
36...Rh5 37.Rxh5 gxh5 38.Bg7 Kh7 39.Rxh5+ Kg6 40.Rxb5 c6 41.Rb7 Re8 42.Re7 Rb8 43.Ra7 c5 44.Rxa5 c4 45.Ra6 d5 46.Rd6 Rb2 47.Rxd5 c3 48.Rd1 c2 49.Rg1+ Kf5 50.Bf8 Rb1 51.Ba3 Kxf6 52.Rc1

Not the best move for technique I've ever seen...

52...Rb3 53.Rf1+ Ke5 54.Bc1 f5 55.Rf2 Rb4 56.Rxc2 Rxa4 57.Kg2 Rg4+ 58.Kf3 Rh4 59.Bb2+ Ke6 60.Rg2 Rh3+ 61.Kf2 Kd5 62.Bc1 Ke4 63.Kg1 Rh8 64.Rf2 Rb8 65.Rf4+ Ke5 66.Ba3 Rg8+ 67.Kf2 Rc8 68.Bb2+ Ke6 69.Bd4 Rc7 70.Kg3 Rh7 71.Rh4 Rb7 72.Rh6+ Kd5 73.Kf4 Rf7 74.h4 Kc4 75.h5 Kd3 76.Rg6 1-0

Jason Yu Becomes National Master

By Josh Sinanan



Congratulations to Jason Yu of Bellevue, Washington, who achieved a U.S. Chess rating of 2203 as a result of scoring five out of nine points at the Second Annual Seattle Chess Classic, held at Seattle Chess Club August 15-19. Along the way to the title, Jason scored a draw against GM James Tarjan and wins against FM Ignacio Perez and LM Viktors Pupols. Way to go Jason!!

Jason would like to thank all the coaches (WGM Elena Donaldson, IM Georgi Orlov, GM Emil Anka and GM Greg Serper) and people from the Seattle chess community that have helped him on his chess journey so far.

A subscription to Northwest Chess makes a great gift!

“Mini-Tournament No. 7, Return Of The Mouse Trophy.”

By Jeffrey Roland

Pawns & Pints Meetup held their seventh tournament at the Handle Bar in Boise, Idaho on September 8, 2018. There were 15 players in attendance. The tournament was separated into Open and Reserve sections. Time control was Game/15;d5. This was a single-elimination tournament.

Jeffrey Roland won the Open Section and Kyle Unruh won the Reserve Section.

Jeffrey T Roland (1731) – Michael Kirkpatrick [C64]
Mini-Tournament No. 7
Boise, ID (R3), September 8, 2018
[Jeffrey Roland]

Two things made my entry different and unique. 1) I was the only person recording my moves (which seemed to shock many people), and 2) I was the only participant not drinking beer!!

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5 4.c3 Nge7 5.0-0 0-0 6.d4 exd4 7.cxd4 Bb6 8.Bg5 f6 9.Be3 d6 10.Nc3 Bg4 11.Qb3+ Kh8 12.Be2 Rb8?

In hindsight, it's easy to say that this move didn't do anything, but at the board it seemed to be preparing and threatening ...Bxf3 followed by exchanges on d4 which would be good for Black.

13.Ng5!

Meeting the threat with active play. If nothing else, it looked fancy.

13...Bxe2 14.Ne6 Qe8 15.Nxe2

Well, it just happens to be that this knight will ultimately be in the right spot at the right time to win the game. That fact, however, has nothing to do with anything I saw at this time. It was actually just a forced capture here.

15...Rg8 16.f4 Ng6 17.f5 Nf8 18.N2f4 Qe7

My knee-jerk desire was to play 19.Nd5, but to what end? After a moment or two thought, I decided to play a better move.

19.Rf3! Nd8?? 20.Nxf8 Rxf8 21.Ng6+ 1-0



Jeffrey Roland (L), Nick Tock (organizer). Photo Credit: Amanda Warren.



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Coquille Summer Of 2018

By Nancy Keller

Chess has no real “season” as it is weather independent thus is year round. This summer has remained busy for the Coquille Chess Club.

Las Vegas

Four Coquille chess players did a 16-hour drive to Las Vegas to attend the International Chess Festival June 21-24 at the Westgate Hotel. Dustin Herker (going into ninth grade) did amazing for his first big tournament. Going in with a US Chess rating of 571, he tied for first place in the Under 1000 division. Josiah Perkins rated at 1886 tied for fifth place in the Under 1900 division. Joshua Grabinsky rated 2200 managed to place 45 out of 106 in the Under 2300 division. Jordan Henderson rated 931 managed to place 45 out of 79 in the Under 1300 division. Jordan increased his rating up to 1057 (for reference, Coach Keller’s rating is 1407).

LaVerne Park

July 21, Coquille Chess Club hosted a chess tournament and outdoor fun at LaVerne Park. Interestingly, less players came to the LaVerne Park tournament when the sun was out. (June 9 when it rained there were 20 participants, this tournament only 10 players.) Chris Broer, an adult new to the tournament scene scored first place in the novice division. Jesse King (going into third grade) scored first in the novice scholastics. In the advanced section, Joshua Grabinsky (going into the 10th grade) continued to display his dominance as he beat all his opponents. Mark Claiborne (adult) placed second with Josiah Perkins placing third. Between games, there were competitive squirt gun fights and attempts to keep a birdie in the air with badminton rackets. Everyone was awarded with fun outdoor toys.

Denker National High School Championship

Joshua Grabinsky as the Oregon High School champion was invited to the Denker National High School Championships where the top player of each state played July 28-31 in Middleton, Wisconsin. He managed 2.5 wins out of 6 in the championships to score 30th out of the state players. However, Joshua is a recent ninth grade player and has three more potential years to return to this very strong tournament. He plans to study and continue to improve.

US Open

Page 18



Joshua Grabinsky and Josiah Perkins at the Las Vegas International Chess Festival. Photo credit: Nancy Keller.

Since Coquille Chess club had to fly out to Wisconsin for the Denker tournament, Coach Keller brought recently graduated senior Josiah Perkins along so he and Joshua Grabinsky could play in the US Open that was scheduled to coincide and follow the Denker tournament. Before the Denker was the US Open Bughouse tournament where Josiah and Joshua won second place. Then as Joshua played in the Denker, Josiah played in side events of a weekend Swiss where he tied for second place. Josiah also enjoyed the Monday and Tuesday quads. Then Joshua and Josiah entered the main event August 1 and for the next five days, played in games lasting up to six hours. Joshua tied for first in the

under 2400 section. His only two losses were to two grandmasters who placed in the top four of the tournament. Josiah scored 5.5/9 in this highly competitive event. His rating is now 1976, 24 points shy of becoming an Expert. He has also entered the top 100 in the nation for age 18. Joshua Grabinsky nudged his rating up to 2214 as he strengthens his National Master status. Joshua is currently ranked #20 in the nation for the age of 14.

Next...

Labor Day weekend, these four players along with others will be competing and improving their skills in the Oregon Open in Portland.



(L-R) Joshua Grabinsky, Carl Haessler, Cassandra Roshu. Photo credit: Nancy Keller.

October 2018

Northwest Chess

Seattle GM Summer Camps And Flood At Seattle Chess Club

By Jacob Mayer and Josh Sinanan

During this past summer in Seattle, Washington Chess Federation organized three Grandmasters Chess Camps hosted at the Seattle Chess Club. The camps were a huge hit and attracted both junior and adult players ranging from beginner to master level.

GM Andrey Gorovets kicked off the summer with a camp in early July just after returning from the World Open. GM Julio Sadorra and GM Andrey Gorovets then teamed up to conduct the summer's second GM Summer Camp, "Future Champions Camp."

During the camp a pipe burst in the ceiling overhead nearly put the whole camp in jeopardy! In the basement of the SCC, standing water could be seen after intense water pressure caused most of the ceiling tiles to collapse. Luckily the damage was contained to the playing area as computers, old trophies, and the book collection avoided damage, however many of the boards would need replacing. None of the students were hurt as our wonderful GM coaches ushered the students outside before the falling ceiling could injure anyone.

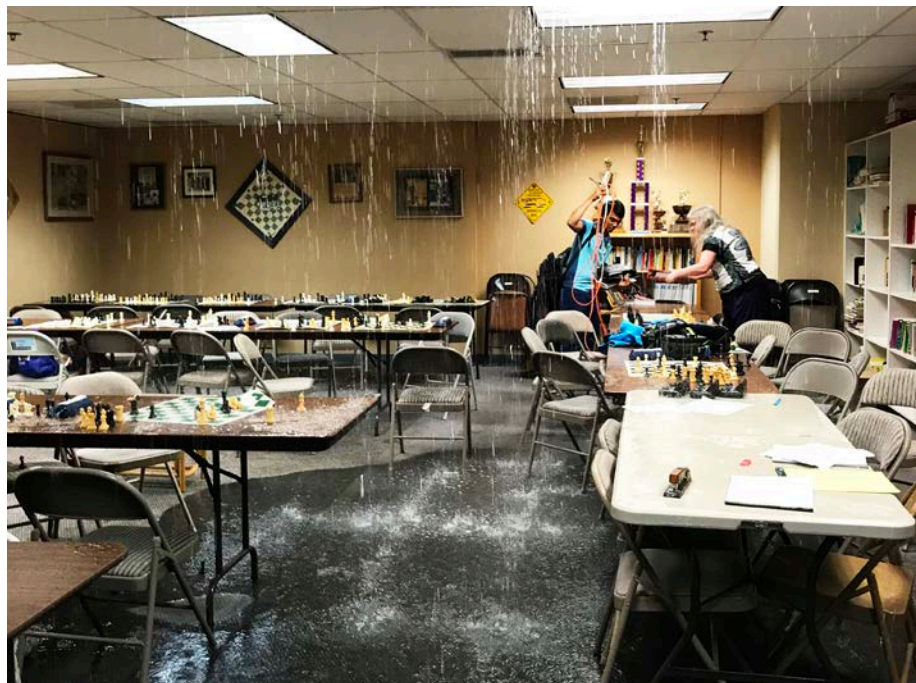
WCF representative Jacob Mayer worked with building officials to coordinate the cleaning effort, but camp would continue! Classes would be moved to the skittles area, where as many as 15 players huddled around a demo board on the wall, as coaches Julio and Andrey showed incredible class and resilience by adapting to the situation and running a marvelous "Future Champions Camp." The building officials brought in a team quickly and would clean up the room in time for a return before the end of the week. Since this time base boards have been replaced, tables and chairs organized and re-organized to accommodate the dampened floor, and the room has been rebuilt with a new ceiling! Special thanks again to our GM coaches Julio Sadorra and Andrey Gorovets for their adaptability both on and off the board, and to the Seattle Chess Club officials for their continued allowance to use the space and flexibility with their weekly events after the "great flood."

GM coaches Julio and Andrey introduced new opening ideas to the students, introduced new methods for calculating critical positions, and played simul against students from varying famous games. The GM's capped off the week with individualized reports

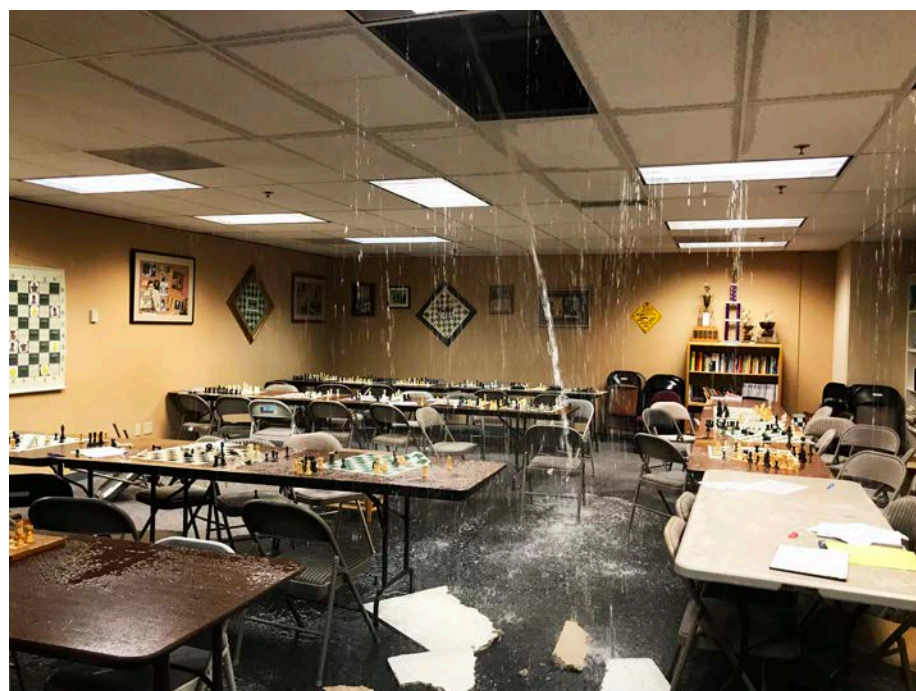
for students identifying strengths and weaknesses assessed over the week, as well as tips/suggestions for future studies!

Next up the Seattle Sluggers' very own GM Victor Mikhalevski, rated 2583 FIDE, hosted two back-to-back camps at the Seattle Chess Club from July 30-August 3, and another session from August 6-10! Coach Victor provided intense lecture and discussion to students and parents from across the Seattle area and played simul events against some

of our state's strongest up-and-coming juniors! He also encouraged students to bring in previously played games to review during classes to help inspire our future champions. GM Mikhalevski was the strongest player to run training sessions in Seattle and was very excited to pass on his knowledge and passion for chess. This was Victor's first time teaching in the Seattle area and we were very excited to host such a strong GM in the Pacific Northwest!



GM Julio Sadorra (L) and Mary Kuhner scramble to save the electronics during the flood. Photo Credit: Davey Jones.



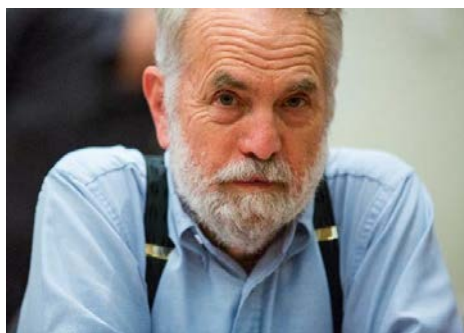
Flood water from a burst pipe rushes down from the ceiling above the playing room. Photo Credit: Davey Jones.



Future Champions Camp. (L-R) Rear: GM Andrey Gorovets, Jason Yu, Karthik Shaji, Mary Kuhner, Minda Chen, GM Julio Sadorra. Front: Daniel Shubin, Angela Chen, Ryan Min, Owen Xuan, Austin Liu, Eihan Su, Stuart Bushfield, Sophie Szeto. Photo Credit: Jacob Mayer.

Simultaneous Exhibition by Grandmaster James Tarjan

National Chess Day: October 13, 2018



Site: Vancouver Mall, [8700 NE Vancouver Mall Drive, Vancouver WA](http://www.vancouvermall.com), near Macy's entrance to the mall by the large chess set on the lower level.

Time: 1pm to 5pm. Number of boards: 20, sets and boards provided.

This a FREE event for players and spectators.

Registration: Please register online at: nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration/.

Contact: Russell (Rusty) Miller, email: russellmiller22@comcast.net, Phone: 360-852-8044.

Prizes: Chess magazines and chess books to players who beat or draw the Grandmaster.

Sponsors: Vancouver Mall, Northwest Chess, US Chess, Chess Butler email: info@chessbutler.com, Esther Schrader, EinsteinWise Academy website: www.EinsteinWise.com, IQ Credit Union in Vancouver WA.



GM Julio Sadorra (L) and GM Andrey Gorovets (R) downtown at Seattle's Pike Place Market. Photo credit: Jacob Mayer.

Washington Game/60 Championship

October 13-14, 2018

Site: Seattle Chess Club, 2150 North 107th Street, Seattle, WA 98133.

Format: 6 Round Swiss. One Section.

Time Control: G/60, d5.

Dual Rated: Regular and Quick Chess rated.

US Chess October 2018 rating supplement will be used to determine pairings and prizes. Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating. Higher of US Chess regular/quick or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

Prize Fund: \$2,500 (based on 60 paid entries).

1st \$650, 2nd \$500, 3rd \$300, 1st U2200 \$150, 1st U2000 \$150, 1st U1800 \$150, 1st U1600 \$150, 1st U1400 \$150, 1st U1200, 1st U1000/Unrated \$150.

Entry Fee: \$70 if postmarked or online by 10/07, \$80 after 10/07 or at site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

Registration: 10:00 - 10:45 AM.

Rounds: Saturday 11:00 AM, 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM
Sunday 11:00 AM, 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM

Byes: Two half-point byes available. Request before end of round 2. US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required, other states accepted. US Chess Grand Prix Points: 10. US Chess Junior Grand Prix event. Northwest Chess Grand Prix event. NS. NC. W.

Info/Entries: Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

Mail To: Dan Mathews, 749 Somerset Lane, Edmonds, WA 98020-2646.

Phone: (425) 218-7529 or **Josh Sinanan:** (206) 769-3757.

Email: danomathews01@gmail.com or wcf.tournaments@gmail.com.

Online Registration: www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration.

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(GMs & IMs free but must enter by 9/19 or pay late fee at door).

Guaranteed (Prizes 1-7 in Open Section Gtd. plus 1/2 of all other prizes).

\$2,000 - 1000 - 800 - 600 - 500 - 300 - 300, (2399/below) \$1,000 - 500, (2299/below) \$1,000 - 500
(if a tie for 1st then a playoff for \$100 out of prize fund plus trophy).

Sec. Expert - (2000 - 2199) EF: \$159; \$2000 - \$800 - \$400 - \$300 - \$200.

Sec. "A" - (1800 - 1999) EF: \$158; \$1800 - \$700 - \$400 - \$300 - \$300.

Sec. "B" - (1600 - 1799) EF: \$157; \$1700 - \$700 - \$400 - \$300 - \$300.

Sec. "C" - (1400 - 1599) EF: \$156; \$1500 - \$600 - \$400 - \$300 - \$300.

Sec. "D" /under - (1399/below) EF:\$150; \$1000 - \$400 - \$300 - \$200, (1199/below) \$300.

Top Senior (65+) - \$200; **Club Champ** - \$600 - \$300.

Wednesday 10/17 7:00 pm - GM Sergey Kudrin - Clock Simul. w/complete analysis of YOUR Game (Only \$30!)

Thursday 10/18 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm - Lecture by IM John Donaldson (FREE)

7:30 pm - GM Melikset Khachiyani - Simul. (\$20); Blitz (G/5 d0) tourney \$25 - 80% entries = Prize Fund

Saturday 10/20 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm - FREE Game / Position Analysis - IM John Donaldson

♔♚♛♜♞♟♠♡♢♣♤♥♦♧♨♩ Main Tournament ♠♡♢♣♤♥♦♧♨♩

Registration: Thursday (10/18) 5 - 8 pm. Friday (10/19) 9 - 10 am. Saturday (10/20) 9 - 10 am.

Round Times: (3 Day Sch.): Fri. - 12 Noon - 7 pm; Sat. - 10 am - 7 pm; Sun. - 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

(2 Day Sch.): Sat. - Rd 1 - 11:00 am; Rd 2 - 1:15 pm; Rd 3 - 3:45 pm, Rd 4 merge with regular schedule - 7:00 pm

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Ask for code: CHESS1018. For TLA and to confirm receipt of entry see player list at: www.renochess.org**

ENTRY FORM - 36th Annual Western States Open - Reno, Nevada - October 19 - 21 & October 20 - 21, 2018

Mail to: Sands Regency Casino Hotel - 345 N. Arlington Avenue - Reno NV 89521

PRINT Name _____ Daytime Phone _____ USCF/FIDE Rating _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

USCF I.D. Number _____ Exp. Date _____ **All pre-registered players please check in at tournament desk on arrival.**

ENTRY FEE ENCLOSED : (CIRCLE SECTION AND FEE BELOW) **BYE(S) REQUESTED FOR ROUNDS(S): (CIRCLE)** 1 2 3 4 5 6

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- Hotel Deposit \$88.12* (Fri. & Sat.)
- \$30 Wed. Clock Simul. GM Kudrin
- \$20 Thursday-Simul. GM Khachiyani
- \$25 Thursday Blitz (G / 5 d0)
- \$10 discount - Sr. 65+ Age

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information and signature. \$5 service charge on credit card entries.**

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*Send \$58.61 for weekday arrival, \$88.12 for Friday arrival.



*Jacob Mayer (R) and GM Julio Sodorra visiting the Fremont Troll at the recent GM Camp in Seattle.
Photo credit: GM Andrey Gorovets!*

Washington Challenger's Cup

October 27-28, 2018

Highest finishing Washington resident in the Open Section seeded into the 2019 Washington State Championship

Site: Seattle Chess Club, 2150 North 107th Street, Seattle, WA 98133.

Registration: Saturday 9:00 - 9:45 AM.

Two Sections: Open (FIDE Rated) and Reserve (under 1800).
Open: 4 Round Swiss. **Time Control:** 40/120, SD/30, d10.
Reserve: 5 Round Swiss. **Time Control:** Round 1 G/60, d10, Rounds 2-5 40/120, SD/30, d10.

Rounds: Open: Saturday 10:00 AM, 4:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM. Reserve: Saturday 10:00 AM, 12:30 PM, 6:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM.

US Chess October 2018 rating supplement will be used to determine pairings and prizes. Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating. Higher of US Chess or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

Byes: One half-point bye available (Open Section), two half-point byes available (Reserve Section). Request before end of round 2. US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required, other states accepted. US Chess Grand Prix Points: 10. US Chess Junior Grand Prix event. Northwest Chess Grand Prix event. NS. NC. W.

Prize Fund: \$2,500 (based on 60 paid entries).
Open: 1st \$600, 2nd \$400, 1st U2100 \$200, 1st U1900 \$200.
Reserve: 1st \$400, 2nd \$250, 1st U1600 \$150, 1st U1400 \$150, 1st U1200/Unrated \$150.

Info/Entries: Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

Mail To: Dan Mathews, 749 Somerset Lane, Edmonds, WA 98020-2646.

Phone: (425) 218-7529 or **Josh Sinanan:** (206) 769-3757.

Email: danomathews01@gmail.com or wcf.tournaments@gmail.com.

Entry Fee: \$75 if postmarked or online by 10/21, \$85 after 10/21 or at site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

Online Registration: www.nwchess.com/online-registration.

August 2018 PCC Game 60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—August 25, 2018

August's Game 60 at the Portland Chess Club was notable for a number of reasons, the first of these being the weather. It was one Saturday during this summer that the temperature did not linger in the 90s for most of the day, and one could actually feel a morning-coolness in the air—a phenomenon that was probably partly responsible for a healthy turnout of 31 players.

Notable also were a number of the games—those of Brian “I’m Just Glad To Be Here” Berger (1509-1500—2.0/4) not being one of them. For try as he might to discover the secret of playing better chess—a rabbit’s foot secreted on his person; various incantations found in ancient, metaphysical tomes; a crash course in “Chess for Idiots;” suggestions by people who know how to play the game; openings your opponent is not likely to know (but neither do you); medicinal herbs with supposed brain-enhancing properties (assuming there is something left to enhance); not stepping on cracks in the sidewalk (an old wives tale); brushing and flossing on a regular basis (he’ll try most anything)—nothing he has done has kept him off his floor for long.

Opposite of this heart-wrenching story are the results of those who seem to improve with little effort, or at least do not lose 100-points in a fortnight. One of those just missed out on tying for 2nd/ U1800 in the Main Section (the players were split into two sections because of the 31 entrants), little Abbie Wu (1719-1763—2.5/4), who has been coming on like a steamroller lately, recently breaking the 1700 barrier. In this tournament that steamrolling continued, resulting in the flattening of a high 1700 player, the depressing an 1800+ player, and more than leveling the recent rating difference between her and Zoey Tang (1725-



Main Section winner, Seth Talyansky. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

1737—2.5/4), by drawing the equally aggressive youngster—the result of which, tacked another 44-points on a fast growing rating.

Another player of note was Havish Sripada (1582-1688—3.0/4), whose 106-point rating gain put him in the rarefied company of Jason Cigan (2248-



Carl Haessler Chess Master

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NWchessworks.com

2242—3.0/4) and Raj Kodithyala (1733-1778—3.0/4), all three of whom tied for 2nd/U1800, each receiving \$26.75 of the split prize money. It was Cigan's 4th round loss to Seth Talyansky (2248-2259—4.0/4), who by coincidence had entered this tournament at the same rating that had cost him the top spot.

Having somehow squandered a good portion of his recently inflated rating (1528, earned for his perfect score in July's 4th Annual Rose City Sectionals—see the September issue), Jerrold "I just Want To Reach 1600 Before It's Over" Richards (1454-1452—1.0/4) was (erroneously, I believe) entered into the Main Section ahead of this reporter, whose floor is 1500. This oversight forced me to play in the Lower Section, peopled mostly by Unrated, Provisional and lower rated players, all of whom scare me more than the higher rated variety.

Fortunately, for Richards, after suffering two losses to those higher in the food chain and taking a half point bye in the third round, he miraculously drew a game against Chris Burris (1693-1647—0.5/4)—who was having a worse day than Richards; an anomaly for a player of Burris' skills—that kept Richards from shedding a greater load of points. If not for that fourth round draw, I suspect Morgan the Dog (Richards' inseparable companion) would have been



(L) Abbie Wu vs Zoey Tang. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

too depressed to even rise from his resting place on the floor, seeing that it was only a month-and-a-half previous that he basked in the limelight of media attention

surrounding Richards' winning all four of his games in the above mentioned Sectionals—a feat that prompted days of extreme revelry at the two's abode on the Washington side of the Columbia Gorge, leading to the calling out of the State Police and National Guard to bring the party to an end.

Unfortunately, for me, I was left trying to protect myself from losing the meager 9-points I still had above my floor, a battle lost to two Provisional players—Ryan Lu (1264P-1415P—3.5/4) and Richard Harnden (1514P-1497P—3.0/4). Lu, who added 151-points to his rating with three wins and a draw, also found himself the winner of the Lower section and \$70 richer. And it was Harnden, along with Ishaan Rao (976-1077—3.0/4), Adhith Srikanth (1392-1425—3.0/4), Ethan Zhang (1373-1468—3.0/4) and David Ma (1498-1493—3.0/4), who all tied for second—Srikanth, Zhang and Ma, splitting the second place prize to the tune of \$13.50 each, leaving Harnden and Rao to divvy up the U1200/Unrated money, giving both of them a portrait of Andrew Jackson to stick in their wallets.

Overseeing this event was Chief TD Mike Hasuike, assisted by Jon Strohbehn, who weathered the storm of late arrivals and questionable registration data—the cause of nearly a 40-minute delay of the tournament's start time. Except for that, the tournament ran like a well-oiled clock—or nowadays, a well-powered digital display.



(L) Chief TD Mike Hasuike and Jon Strohbehn do the pairings. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Washington Class Championships

A NW Grand Prix Event

November 23-25, 2018

\$10,000 Guaranteed Prize Fund

Entry fees listed as: Postmarked
By Oct 28 / By Nov 14 / At site

Master (2200+) EF \$150/\$160/\$170
Prizes \$700, \$500, \$400 U2300 \$250, \$150

Expert (2000-2199) EF \$140/\$150/\$160
Prizes \$600, \$375, \$300, U2100 \$200, \$125

Class A (1800-1999) EF \$130/\$140/\$150
Prizes \$450, \$300, \$200 U1900 \$150, \$100

Class B (1600-1799) EF \$130/\$140/\$150
Prizes \$450, \$300, \$200 U1700 \$150, \$100

Class C (1400-1599) EF \$130/\$140/\$150
Prizes \$450, \$300, \$200 U1500 \$150, \$100

Class D (1200-1399) EF \$130/\$140/\$150
Prizes \$450, \$300, \$200 U1300 \$150, \$100

Class E (1199&Below) EF \$120/\$130/\$140
Prizes \$350, \$200, \$150, U1000 \$100,
U800/Unrated \$100

Medal Only EF \$80 / \$90 / \$100
(Juniors Under age 21 only)
Rated players add \$65 to play up one class
only (can't play up two classes).
Free entry to GMs, IMs, and WGMs.
Reentry for 1/2 of your original entry fee.
Canadians may pay C\$ at par for entry fee.

Special Prizes

Top female (each class) \$50
Top senior 50+ (each class) \$50
Medals awarded to top two in each class.

Entries/Information:

Send entries to: Jacob Mayer
9502 44th Avenue NE
Seattle, WA 98115-2610
Phone: (206) 697-5625

Email: jvictormayer@yahoo.com
Josh Sinanan

Phone: (206) 769-3757

Email: wcf.tournaments@gmail.com
Make checks payable to
Washington Chess Federation.

Embassy Suites Seattle North/Lynnwood
20610 44th Avenue West
Lynnwood, WA 98036, Phone: (425) 775-2500

Online Registration at www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration
Pay by credit/debit or PayPal.

Format: Seven class sections as shown at left, six round Swiss system. Sections may be combined if less than 12 players in a section. *Late registrations may receive half-point byes for first round.*

Rating: US Chess rated. Master/Expert/Class A/Class B sections also FIDE rated (except G/60 games). US Chess November 2018 rating supplement will be used to determine class sections. Higher of US Chess or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. Higher of US Chess or FIDE rating used for pairings and prizes in Master, Expert, Class A, Class B sections. Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating. Unrated players may only win 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes in Master section, or unrated prize in Class E. Medal-only may not win any cash prizes.

Registration: Friday 9:00-10:00 AM for 3-day schedule, or 3:00-3:30 PM if entering with one half-point bye. Saturday 8:00-8:30 AM for 2-day schedule, or 8:30-9:30 AM if entering 3-day schedule with two half-point byes. Two half-point byes available at registration or before end of round 2. Play any two days, if taking two half-point byes.

Rounds: 3-day schedule: Fri: 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Sat 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Sun 9:30 AM and 3:30 PM. 2-day schedule: Sat 9:00 AM, 11:45 AM, 2:30 PM, then join 3-day schedule with round 4 at 5:30 PM.

Time Controls: 3-day schedule: 40/120 and SD/30 with 10-second delay. 2-day schedule: G/60 with 10-second delay (rounds 1-3), rounds 4-6 same as 3-day schedule. Please bring tournament chess set, board, and digital clock.

Miscellaneous: Current US Chess membership and WCF/OCF/ICA membership required in all sections. Other States Accepted. Memberships may be paid at time of registration. NW Grand Prix event. US Chess Grand Prix Points: 40. US Chess Junior Grand Prix. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible.

Hotel Info/Rates: \$144 Double, single or double occupancy. Call (425) 775-2500, request the Washington Chess Federation block. Group ID: 398894. Cut-off date for reservations at the discount is November 9, 2018 at 5:00 PM PST.

Washington Class Blitz Championship: Sat 11/24 at 9:00 PM. Format: 5-round Double Swiss in one section. Registration: 8:00-8:45 PM. Rounds: 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30 and 11:00 PM. TC: G/5; d0. EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400/b20. 1st \$130, 2nd \$90, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700 \$60, 1st U1400/Unrated \$60. US Chess Blitz rated. Current US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required.



SEEING THAT "MORGAN THE DOG" HAD IMPROVED JERROLD RICHARDS' CHESS GAME, HOWARD PURCHASED "RIPPER THE ROTTWEILER," KNOWING FULL WELL THE DOG DID NOT KNOW A BISHOP FROM A DOG BISCUIT, BUT HOPING HE WOULD BE A GREAT INTIMIDATION FACTOR.

The 2018 John Braley Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, Administrator

(mevjr54@outlook.com)

I held off on my article until I had the results from the Oregon Open. It had a very large impact on the standings, in all three states. There were, altogether, three significant events with multipliers, and almost every leader in Oregon and Washington attended at least one of them, as did the top players in Idaho. September after Labor Day weekend was not as impactful, as among the seven events held, only one carried a multiplier, the Seattle Fall Open (2x). So, when you see the standings in next month's magazine, the changes will be much more modest.

Looking on the October, since this IS the October edition, we will have a total of eight Grand Prix events, of which four will have multipliers applied. You can't attend them all, however, since three are occurring on the same weekend, associated with National Chess Day. These three, all held on October 12-14 or 13-14, will be the National Chess Day and Portland Fall Open (2x), the Washington Game/60 Championship in Seattle (3x) and the Norman Freidman Memorial and National Chess Day Open in Boise (3x). That last one is what I believe to be the only multiplier event in Idaho this year. You want to compete in Idaho, you better be there. The one remaining multiplier event is the Washington Challengers' Cup in Seattle, also for three times the usual points. Remember, even the completion bonus gets multiplied, so those last round withdrawals can get expensive.

Our non-multiplier events are the regular monthly tornados and quads in Seattle and Portland. In a tight contest, these local events can decide winning or just missing when all is in the books. It is also not too early to make plans to be in Lynnwood, WA, Thanksgiving weekend for the annual Washington Class and it's 6x multiplier.

Through Labor Day weekend, our most active player is August Piper of Washington, with 22 events. Right behind him are a quartet of Oregonians. Zoey Tang and Austin Tang have attended 21 events each and Pierre-Hadrien Beauchet and Arliss Dietz have been to 20 each. Look for these names in the standings. They are all among the leaders. What can you do in the remaining three months of the year?

All data is current as of September 6.

2018 Memorial Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington		
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.
Masters								
			1	Tarjan James	84.0	1	Pupols Viktors	150.5
			2	Breckenridge Steven J	82.0	2	Perez Ignacio	137.0
			3	McCoy Owen	59.5	3	He Anthony B	132.5
			4	Zavortink Matt	54.0	4	Roper David	81.0
			5	Grabinsky Joshua	49.0	5	Bragg David R	61.0
Experts								
			1	Richardson Ryan	81.5	1	Levine Joseph R	208.0
			2	Bjorksten Lennart	73.5	2	Yu Jason	158.5
			3	Gatica Jose M	70.5	3	Zhang Eric M	114.5
			4	Seitzer Phillip	59.5	4	Mahajan Rushaan	113.0
			5	Zhang Gavin	55.0	5	Truelson Joseph	89.5
Class A								
			1	Vega Isaac	150.5	1	Vijayakumar Advait	134.0
			2	Moore Michael	142.0	2	Velea Anne-Marie	132.0
			3	Holloran William T, III	84.5	3	Beck Alec W	132.0
			4	Nair Roshen S	82.0	4	Anand Vignesh	128.0
			5	Hosford Michael J	81.0	5	Fagundes Frank	126.0
M/X/Class A								
1	Cambareri Michael E	65.0						
2	Machin Alex J	45.5						
3	Xu Kevin	44.5						
4	Inman James	37.0						
5	Presutti Michael J	31.0						
Class B								
1	Roland Jeffrey T	35.5						
1	Wei James	35.5						
3	Rainey Samuel W	30.0						
4	Geyman Jonathan P	23.5						
5	Derryberry Dewayne R	17.5						

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
Class C			Class B								
1	Kitterman	Andrew N	25.0	1	Tang	Zoey	162.0	1	Gupta	Anand	143.0
2	Weyland	Ron	13.5	2	Tang	Austin	161.5	2	Kaelin	Alex	126.5
3	Mason	Dusty G	9.5	3	Kodithyala	Raj	120.5	3	Velea	Stephanie	119.5
4	Pentico	Chrisopher	6.0	4	Wu	Abbie	99.5	4	Tang	Richard O	113.5
5	Two Tied At		5.5	5	Sripada	Havish	96.0	5	Min	Ryan	107.5
Class D			Class C								
1	Merry	William A F	23.0	1	Beauchet	Pierre-Hadrien	165.0	1	Piper	August	162.0
2	Porth	Adam	16.5	2	Dietz	Arliss	115.0	2	Goktepe	Derin	144.5
3	Shepard	River C	13.5	3	Wong	Egan	99.5	3	Richards	Jerrold	127.0
4	Zeng	Forrest	8.5	4	Roshu	Cassandra M	76.5	4	Johnson	Cleveland R	100.5
5	Zaklan	David A	7.0	5	Semenov	Fedor	54.0	5	Wang	Felicity	99.5
Class E and Below			Class D and Below								
1	Wei	Luke B	25.0	1	Morrissey	Patrick W	82.5	1	Henderson	Doug	120.5
2	Porth	Darwin A	15.0	2	Zhang	Ethan Y	74.0	2	Li	Edward	104.0
2	Geyman	Josiah B	15.0	3	Kodarapu	Ishaan K	73.0	3	Chen	Angela Z	88.5
4	Leifeste	Bryce	14.0	4	Adiraju	Vimal	63.0	4	Vemparala	Nikash	85.5
5	Belew	Finn C	12.5	5	Two Tied At		55.0	5	Williamson	Mobius	85.0
Overall Leaders, by State											
1	Cambareri	Michael E	65.0	1	Beauchet	Pierre-Hadrien	165.0	1	Levine	Joseph R	208.0
2	Machin	Alex J	45.5	2	Tang	Zoey	162.0	2	Piper	August	162.0
3	Xu	Kevin	44.5	3	Tang	Austin	161.5	3	Yu	Jason	158.5
4	Inman	James	37.0	4	Vega	Isaac	150.5	4	Pupols	Viktors	150.5
5	Roland	Jeffrey T	35.5	5	Moore	Michael	142.0	5	Goktepe	Derin	144.5
5	Wei	James	35.5	6	Kodithyala	Raj	120.5	6	Gupta	Anand	143.0
7	Presutti	Michael J	31.0	7	Dietz	Arliss	115.0	7	Perez	Ignacio	137.0
8	Rainey	Samuel W	30.0	8	Wu	Abbie	99.5	8	Vijayakumar	Advaith	134.0
9	Kitterman	Andrew N	25.0	9	Wong	Egan	99.5	9	He	Anthony B	132.5
9	Wei	Luke B	25.0	10	Sripada	Havish	96.0	10	Velea	Anne-Marie	132.0
11	Geyman	Jonathan P	23.5	11	Holloran	William T, III	84.5	11	Beck	Alec W	132.0
12	Merry	William A F	23.0	12	Tarjan	James	84.0	12	Anand	Vignesh	128.0

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 seattlechess.club ↗
 kleistcf@aol.com ↗
Address for Entries
 SCC Tnmt Dir
 2420 S 137 St
 Seattle WA 98168

Wednesdays
 are for casual play, from 7:00 pm
 to 11:00 pm

Oct 7 **SCC Novice**
Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$11 by 10/3, \$16 at site. (-\$2 SCC mem., -\$1 mem. other NW dues-req'd CCs). **Prizes:** Memb (SCC, WCF, US Chess). **Reg:** 9-9:45a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4-commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

☞ **Oct 6 New Date, Nov 17** **Saturday Quads** ☞
Format: 3-RR, 4-plyr sections by rating. **TC:** G/120; d5. **EF:** \$9 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free entry for future quad. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10:00-2:15-ASAP. **Misc:** US Chess, WCF/OCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

☞ **Oct 14 Canceled, Nov 18** **Sunday Tornado** ☞
Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/60; d5. **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 per EF goes to prize fund). **Reg:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-1:50-4:10-6:30. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4-commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess, WCF/OCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

October 19-21 **SCC Team in Reno!!**
Join the SCC Team(s) in Reno at the **Western States Open**. We will be competing against six to ten teams from other clubs in Reno, Sacramento, San Francisco, etc. The tournament is multi-section (Open, U2000, U1800, . . .) and teams consist of ten players from a club.

WCF @ the SCC

WA G/60 Championship	Oct. 13-14
Challengers Cup	Oct. 27-28



Please join the SCC board in thanking former webmaster and SCC board member Neal Bonrud for his years of service! While we transition to a new webmaster, *online registration and membership signups may be temporarily unavailable.*

How to Find the SCC

Look for the Northway Square East Building, just across I-5 from Northgate Mall, with a large sign proclaiming "Northwest Kidney Centers." The main entrance is reached by turning east on N. 107th Street from Meridian Ave. N. The club is on the lower level.

11th SCC Extravaganza!!

November 9-11, 2018

A two-section, seven-round Swiss with a time control of **G/90; d5** (Two-day option – rounds 1 & 2 @ G/45; d5). The prize fund of **\$1000 is based on 60.**

Open: \$200-140, U2200 100, U2000 100

Reserve (U1800): First \$140-100, U1600 70, U1400 70, U1200 60, UNR 20

Entry Fee: \$43 by 11/7 (\$32 for SCC members, \$38 for members of other dues-required CCs in WA, OR, & BC), \$51 at site (\$38 for SCC members, \$45 for members of other dues-required CCs in WA, OR, & BC).

Registration: Friday 7-7:45 p.m. Saturday 9-9:45 a.m. Rounds: Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 11-2:30-6, Sunday 11-2:30-6.

Two-Day Option: Rounds 1 & 2, Saturday 10-12. Byes: 3 available; 1 in rounds 5-7, must commit before round 3.

Miscellaneous: US Chess & ICA/OCF/WCF membership required. OSA. NC, NS.

Upcoming Events

☞ denotes 2018 Northwest Grand Prix event; for Seattle Chess Club events see page 30

Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Portland Chess Club Championship, **Portland, OR.** (<http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>)

☞ **Oct. 12-14** Norman Friedman Memorial & National Chess Day Tournament, **Boise, ID.** 5 SS, TC: G/120; d5. Site: The Riverside Hotel, 2900 W Chinden Blvd, Boise, ID 83714. US Chess and ICA membership req'd, Other states acceptable. One Section: Open, US Chess rated. EF: \$30 per player (\$10 blitz only) Discount for online registration. Check-in: 9:30 - 10 am. US Chess & ICA/OCF/WCF mem req., can be purchased at reg. Opening Cer. 9 am, Rd times: 10/13 10 am, 2 pm, 7 pm, 10/14 9 am, 1 pm. Byes: Rd 1-4. Prizes: \$1200 guaranteed! 1st - 3rd place Overall \$250, \$200, 150 U1800, U1600, U1400, U1200, U1000, Unr each: \$50/class. Side Events: Blitz 10/12, Scholastic Chess 10/13, Blitz prizes: 1st - 3rd overall, \$150, \$100, \$75. Scholastic Prizes: 1st - 3rd overall trophies, 1st place K-3rd grade. Contact: idahochessassociation@gmail.com, www.idahochessassociation.com, 208-450-9048.

Oct 13 National Chess Day James Tarjan Simultaneous Exhibition, **Vancouver, WA.** (Half-page Ad page 20)

☞ **Oct 13-14** National Chess Day-Portland Fall Open, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR 97219. Two sections-Open and Reserve (U1800), 4-round Swiss, G/90;inc30, one half point bye is available if requested before round one, US Chess rated. On-site reg: 9-9:45am, Rds: 10am and 2:45pm each day. Rounds 2 and 4 can be started earlier if both players agree. Players who have a game go long can request extra time off before the next round. EF: \$40, \$30 for PCC members (pay by cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club). US Chess and OCF/WCF/ICA memberships are required and can be purchased during registration (OSA). Prizes (\$1000 b/40): Open: 1st-\$250, 2nd-\$175, 1st U2000-\$100; Reserve: 1st-\$150, 2nd-\$100, 1st 1600, 1st U1400, 1st U1200/unrated-\$75 each. OCF Invitational Tournament and OSCF State qualifier. More info. at pdxchess.org, (503) 246-2978.

☞ **Oct 13-14** Washington G/60 Championship, **Seattle, WA.** (Half-page Ad page 21)

Oct 19-21 Western States Open, **Reno, NV.** (Full-page Ad page 22)

☞ **Oct 21/Nov 18** Portland CC Sunday Quads, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR - Map. 3-round quads. Some or all the sections may run as a 3-round Swiss with more than four players. The "live" US Chess regular ratings are usually used for section placement and pairings. G/50;inc15, US Chess and NWSRS rated. On-site reg: 9-9:45am, Rds: 10am, 12:30pm, 3pm. Rounds 2 and 3 can be started earlier if both players agree. Players who have a game go long can request extra time off before the next round. EF: \$15, PCC members \$10, \$5 discount for each additional family member who lives in the same household (pay by cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club), free entry for players who are playing in their first US Chess rated tournament. US Chess membership is required and can be purchased during registration. Winner of each section receives \$10 discount on the entry fee to one of the next three PCC Sunday or Tuesday Quads. If there is a six or seven player Swiss, the runner-up receives \$5 discount. Bonus scholastic awards: trophy for winning section with 3 points; smaller trophy for winning or tying for first with 2.5; medal for winning or tying for first with 2 or 1.5. OSCF State qualifier. More info. at pdxchess.org. Phone: (503) 246-2978.

☞ **Oct 27/Nov 24** Portland CC Game in 60, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR 97219. 4-round Swiss in 5 sections, 2000+, 1800-1999, 1600-1799, 1400-1599, U1400. Players may play up only one class. One, 1/2 bye is available if requested before rd 1. 40/90,SD/30;inc30, US Chess rated. Rds: 10am and 3:45pm each day. EF: \$50 if you pre-reg. by Nov 1, \$65 on-site. Add \$10 if you play up. US Chess and OCF/WCF/ICA memberships are required (OSA). Limited to the first fifty players. Pre-reg at nwchess.com by Nov 1. On-site reg: 9-9:45am. Prizes (\$2000 b/40): 1st-\$200, 2nd-\$100, 3rd-\$70 in each section. The 2000+ also has a \$75 U2200 prize and the U1400 section also has a \$75 U1200/unrated prize. Any player who goes 4-0 wins free entry into next year's OR Class. Any scholastic player who scores at least 2.5 will be able to select a trophy. Qualifier for the OR State Champ, OR Invitational, and OSCF State Champ. More info. at pdxchess.org, (503) 246-2978.

☞ **Oct 27-28** Washington Challengers Cup, **Seattle, WA.** (Half-page Ad page 23)

☞ **Nov 3-4** Oregon Class Championships, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR 97219. 4-round Swiss in 5 sections, 2000+, 1800-1999, 1600-1799, 1400-1599, U1400. Players may play up only one class. One, 1/2 bye is available if requested before rd 1. 40/90,SD/30;inc30, US Chess rated. Rds: 10am and 3:45pm each day. EF: \$50 if you pre-reg. by Nov 1, \$65 on-site. Add \$10 if you play up. US Chess and OCF/WCF/ICA memberships are required (OSA). Limited to the first fifty players. Pre-reg at nwchess.com by Nov 1. On-site reg: 9-9:45am. Prizes (\$2000 b/40): 1st-\$200, 2nd-\$100, 3rd-\$70 in each section. The 2000+ also has a \$75 U2200 prize and the U1400 section also has a \$75 U1200/unrated prize. Any player who goes 4-0 wins free entry into next year's OR Class. Any scholastic player who scores at least 2.5 will be able to select a trophy. Qualifier for the OR State Champ, OR Invitational, and OSCF State Champ. More info. at pdxchess.org, (503) 246-2978.

☞ **Nov 10** Southern Idaho Open & Veteran's Day Tournament, **Twin Falls, ID.** 4SS, Time Control: G/60; d5. Section: Open. Site: Holiday Inn Express, 1554 Fillmore St, Twin Falls, ID. Call for Chess Rate, 208-734-2233. US Chess & ICA/OCF/WCF mem req. EF: Veterans free, \$30 per player. Discount for online registration. Check in: 9:00-9:30am. Rd. times: 10:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm. 1/2 pt bye avail: Max 1, Notify TD before Rd. 2 is paired. \$\$ (based on 30) 1st - 3rd place Overall \$100, \$75, \$50. \$50/class: U1800, U1600, U1400, U1200, U1000, unr. Details: idahochessassociation@gmail.com, Online registration at www.idahochessassociation.com, (208) 450-9048.

☞ **Nov 23-25** Washington Class Championships, **Lynnwood, WA.** (Full-page Ad page 26)

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